

SECRET
The Life of a . . .



Private Investigator

INCLUDES:
Case Studies
& Workbook

Dennis A. Smith

Copyright © 2020. Dennis A. Smith. All rights reserved.

Permission is granted to reproduce for personal use only, but no part of this publication may be otherwise modified, reproduced, distributed, or transmitted in any form or by any means, including photocopying, digital recording, or any other electronic or mechanical methods, without the prior written permission of the publisher.

For permission requests, please contact the publisher, Writing the Wrong Ltd.

Any unauthorised copying, modification or distribution or quoting from will constitute an infringement of copyright.

Publishing:

Published by Writing the Wrong Ltd

P O Box 2

Taumarunui

New Zealand, 3946

www.dennis.nz

First published: August 2020, Ver 1.05.

Distribution & Sales: sales@writingthewrong.com

ISBN: 978-0-473-53626-8

The SECRET Life of a Private Investigator/Dennis A. Smith.

A catalogue record for this book is available from the National Library of New Zealand

Dedicated to truthseekers everywhere



**THE TRUTH
...OR ELSE!**

1. Contents

1.Contents.....	6
2.Introduction.....	8
3.Lawyers Lie; We All Do!.....	12
4.Samoa Observer.....	13
5.A \$3.1 Billion BS Story.....	14
6.Bartercard Secrets.....	15
7.Down vs Bartercard.....	16
8.International Reciprocal Justice.....	17
9.Hon Robert Fisher.....	18
10.The Dutch International Qoin Con.....	19
11.Qoin Bankruptcy.....	20
12.Aussie BBX Bravado.....	21
13.Christian Businessmen.....	22
14.Flat Earth, Moon Landing & more.....	23
15.Uncharitable Charities.....	24
16.Talamua Cover-up.....	25
17.It's All in a Name.....	26
18.Linda Dzaferic, IRD.....	27
19.'Defamatory' Naming & Shaming.....	28
20.Dennis A. Smith.....	29
21.Failing to Bust.....	30
22.Bert Potter, Centrepont.....	31
23.Publishing Evidence Prior.....	32
24.Taumarunui Museum Trust.....	33
25.Paying the Price.....	34
26.Olinda Woodroffe.....	35
27.Getting Factual With Fiction.....	36
28.Samoa Ventures.....	37
29.Engaging Emotions.....	38
30.The Truth of The Path of Truth.....	39
31.Possible Positivity.....	40
32.Evolution vs Godly Logic.....	41
33.Sharing by Teaching.....	42

34.Dennis A. Smith Headshot.....	43
35.Showing Sensitivity.....	44
36.NZ Initiatives.....	45
37.He's Good For It – Not!.....	46
38.Writing the Wrong.....	47
39.Taking it to Them.....	48
40.Det. Inspector Bruce Hutton.....	49
41.Conceptually Challenging.....	50
42.Buying A Fight.....	51
43.Unforgettable People.....	52
44.Creating Value From Others.....	53
45.The Power of Story.....	54
46.DNC.....	55
47.Backing Yourself.....	56
48. Whale Oil.....	57
49.Creating Commercial Value.....	58
50.Force, A Cultural Conflict.....	59
51.Tuila'epa.com Porn.....	60
52.Holocaustianity.....	61
53.About the Author.....	62

2. Introduction

Hello, my name is Dennis.

I am an author and a NZ-licensed Private Investigative Blogger.

At the time of writing, I am proud to have written almost three dozen books and published more than two million words of blogging online.

I 'take-on' a particular species, 'head-on' - those that I call “**crooks, crims & crazies**”, both at home & across the globe.

I shoot straight and am fearless to speak the truth as I see it.

But I wasn't always like that and I've had to learn this behaviour. At the innocent age of five I experienced a personal trauma where my father denied reality as I saw it. This caused me to subconsciously seek to know the truth . . . a truly defining moment that has influenced me ever since.

While I was child, I failed to ask the questions that my younger sister did, like, “Why is Santa's shopping list written in Mum's handwriting?” To be quite frank, it p*ssed me off that she was more street smart than me!

Over the years though, I did learn to ask questions. As one who cares & who wants to make a difference, I learned to share my findings. Sadly, I've found that most don't share this desire for truthseeking, although all of us think that we do.

A CAREER

My writing and investigative career developed while I lived in rural Samoa. I made an International name for myself when I commenced a six-month private investigation into an international conman who had literally terrorised the international commercial barter industry.

I not only located this sophisticated and highly talented conman when the entire industry couldn't even find him to serve him legal papers, I secured a total closure of his commercial operation and in the process ensured that he would remain in hiding forever, at least in that industry. Even to this day I can 'smell' his unique words in just one email.

Following that success I have hunted down and exposed many other liars, crooks and conmen with a resulting string of bankruptcies & exposes in New Zealand & around the world. I have now formalised these many experiences with a New Zealand license to operate as a Private Investigator. Most PIs seek to operate in the shadows. I don't.



THIS RESOURCE

In this resource, I use the stories surrounding dozens of my books & blog posts as teaching examples, extracting lessons for running an effective business, showing us how to maintain integrity in a 'crooked' world & [hopefully] making it a better place in the process.

In writing, it is my goal that the reader can see reality. I am aware that my clinical dogmatism, my 'never say die' determination to seek, follow and speak the truth, (no matter the consequences) can be a challenge. It is though perfectly possible to live truthfully and it is an eminently valid lifestyle.

And yes, this directness can be a challenge; usually seen as an oddity and perhaps frightening in some ways. Indeed as an ex-Israeli Defence Force client put it once, "Thank God you're on my side!" but it can also be a liberating experience too.

A developing Youtube trend is called "Scam baiting" where tech savvy social justice warriors take it to [primarily] Indian-based scammers. Jim Browning, Kit Boga and (more recently) Pierogi are leaders in this movement. As far as I can tell Pierogi currently leads the pack in live scam baiting. Saving "little old ladies" [literally] from "the scum of the earth" and done in realtime gains massive support. People identify with the underdog and love to see good things happen in what can often be a cruel and unjust world.



Imagine the feelings of the oppressed as they see their oppressors (those myriad conmen, lairs and common thieves) revealed for who they really are – and in realtime too! Such is the peace and joy that comes from 'having the proverbial' and shooting straight.

The flip side of this revelation however, is that when the torchlight is turned upon us, our 'sins' too are illuminated. I give a potent example of this in this resource, when the crooked leaders of an international association (IRTA) overestimated their capacity to manipulate an honest and fearless Private Investigator, (yours truly) who after a major international success turned the light on them, rather than me being used to generate 'unjustified' credibility.

WE ALL LIE

Deception is normal in a 'fallen world'. To think otherwise is to reject reality. We all lie to some degree – all of us, and it is the role of an investigator to find the truth within this sea of deception.

There are four types of deception – an outright lie – often easy to identify using sound logic and observing body language; an exaggeration (which is best identified by assessing the character of the person speaking); a distortion (a story twisted to deceive despite some truth) & an omission, the easiest deception to activate, but one of the hardest to determine.

Being realistic means that when you assess this resource for your own purposes, you will be wise to expect the presenter to lie to you. This may be an outright [black] lie, but

hopefully isn't; one should also seek out those white lies that we all participate in – women who may dolly themselves up with lipstick and top-brand shoes, or men with suits and ties and moustaches attempting to present themselves in a certain way; and also the omission of certain relevant facts, usually done to impress or to make oneself look good but also as deception as part of a fraud.

Body language, such as protecting ourselves with a barrier such as a physical item [a lectern] or a more subtle hand or arm movement [crossed arms] are just some clues we can use to divine deception/integrity; our choice of words; proper context & the application of reasonable skepticism. Good due diligence will also give answers to an inquiring mind.

TOOLS OF PERSUASION

The work of an investigator sometimes requires others to supply information that they would prefer to keep to themselves. Defensive conduct in human relationships and communication therefore is the norm which truthseekers will attempt to circumvent.

When it comes to operating in this space I consciously build myself as “an absolute arsehole” in the minds of my audience, and yes, I use that exact wording with real emphasis and passion. I often then hasten to add that this is as a “professional a*hole” and explain that it is my religious, dogmatic never-give-up approach to 'going after crooks' that makes me that. If an explanation is sought or if I may feel it appropriate, I may then recount true stories of success in taking on the worst “crooks, crims & crazies” out there.

The meaning of my self-deprecation is taken differently by those who have a negative world-view than those who are trustworthy. Crooks will usually see this as a confession of evil on my part, then take the bait and believe in their moral superiority. Often they will associate that with my stupidity and latter learn to their horror that the opposite was the case and that they have shared secrets through their own technical ignorance or human relationship incompetence.

The people that I know best and who I wish to have around me are those who stop, then think about what I say. These are the people who respect and are comfortable with the truth. These are the people I prefer to be with and it generally doesn't take very long before they realise that if they are straight with me, that they can piggyback off my role as the bad guy up front, then enjoy their experiences as they watch me mess with the bad guys!

To many this can be like a breath of fresh air. If they are in a depressing situation, it often brings them hope.

BEING IN THE ZONE

While we stereotypically expect a PI to be snooping around finding proof of our spouses (or our own) extra-marital affairs, this does not need to be the case. Being ourselves, doing what we enjoy and are therefore usually good at shows maturity and it carries well. Others can buy your story well when it connects with reality. I call this “being in the zone” or “hitting the sweet spot”.

TIPS:



Value these tips by using
your own coding system in the
WORKBOOK

Not everyone who chooses to be a Private Investigator shares the same passion for the truth or the same values as I do. This though, is an integral part of my story.

Join me now, on a revelation of my life as a Private Investigator.

GET TO WORK

I encourage you, as you work through this resource, to consider the questions I ask you to complete in the WORKBOOK.

First up, specifically, I encourage you to note just three things that strike you, and then to make a quick note from the teaching on each chapter.

Each tip also can also be marked with a tick (or two or three), a circle or a cross depending on your own system for creating value. Be creative!



Doing this will personalise your experience and triple (yes, triple) the value to you as you apply my experiences into your situation. The reason this is so, is that I am not you. I am me! I am unique but so too are you. You are unique! My experiences and learning are mine. Sure, you may learn from my experiences by observing but you are far wiser to apply the principles I have learned into YOUR life and circumstances.

Completing the WORKBOOK will help you to do this application naturally.

HELP IS AT HAND

Lastly, the presenter of this resource is available to help you, practically in your life. You do not need to be a Private Investigator to ask questions, to think & to apply sound logic onto fact.

Speak to this person (or me) if you need help. getting your story sussed or to get it out.

Go for it!!



TIP 1:



Low self-esteem is a killer.

Learn to consciously back yourself, but only after you have done the research.

Ask the questions, think, then

GO FOR IT!!

3. Lawyers Lie; We All Do!

In 2009 I emigrated to post-Tsunami Samoa.

If you ask me why I did this, I will agree with you that this is indeed a good question. It's one that I asked myself too, many times over many years. It actually has an answer to do with faith and obedience, but the point here is that I suddenly found myself in a foreign world.

Sure, I was in a foreign country and a foreign culture – although my children were both half Maori and I was an experienced businessman 'wise to the world' – but the extent that dishonesty was prevalent up there shocked me.

This aversion to basic honesty was a cultural norm and I was a target from day one, due to the colour of my skin and the widespread perception that I was there to rip them all off. It seemed that the worst of human nature manifested as day after day, year after year those around me connived, tricked and lied to 'get' from me.

One of these experiences was with a local businessman Savea Sano Malifa, the owner of the local rag, Samoa Observer. He was known by the locals as a crook who never paid his bills. I entered into a contract with him to write a series of articles under the brand name "Palagi Perspectives". He bought a fight with me then lied and refused to pay the account – which I have now found to be common practice from this dude, then I did a blog post showing his logical failure and talking about his stupidity in doing what he did to a truth-speaking blogger like me.

It hurt him financially and personally – shame is a serious force in the Samoan culture and when I sued him for the money owing, he escalated the matter out of all proportion counterclaiming for 2 million tala. My book 'The 2 Million Tala Palagi' put the evidence out there in the public domain before the court hearing. It was damning.

In the process I showed clear evidence of how his lawyer knew that she was lying on his behalf to the court. In 2020, she is now a Samoan judge. Go figure – but this is Samoa!

TIP 2:



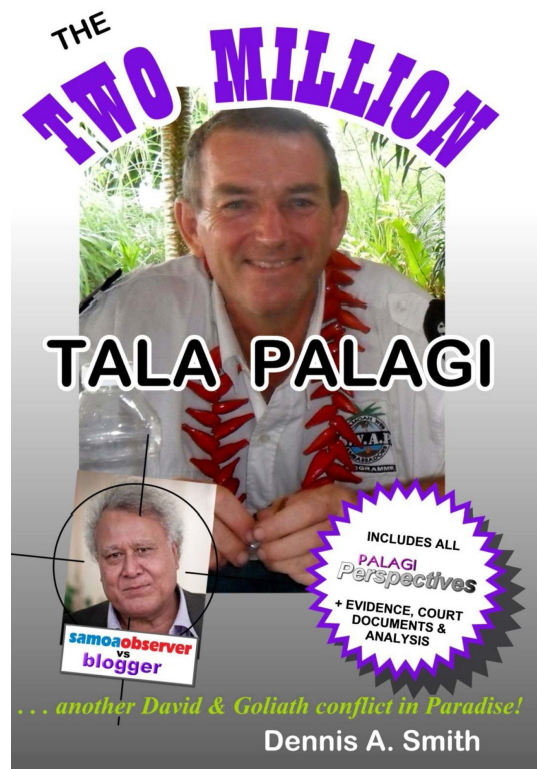
Speaking the truth in a time, place or culture that places a higher value on something else (like public perception, power or profit) can be a serious matter.

Select your fights carefully so that you never lose & minimise your losses.

I love exposing crooked lawyers because they have a position of responsibility in society. I had ample opportunity to do this in Samoa.

Talamua Photo: "Samoa Needs Top Quality Lawyers", says Chief Justice

Agreed (that is if "top quality" means personal integrity!), but actually, we all do!



4. Samoa Observer

The Samoa Observer is Samoa's primary daily newspaper, a privately owned business run by and known within the on-island Samoan community a greedy crook – he doesn't pay his bills and humility is a foreign concept to him sort of thing.

An affidavit produced in court by his lawyer made a false statement relating to a commercial dispute. Evidence of this perjury follows:



The originals are high resolution photographs but even the montage here shows critical evidence proving the perjury - a series of articles under the banner/brand of "Palagi Perspectives" and a photo of the author. These were published online contemporaneously with these newspapers and emails were time & date stamped prior to the publication dates thus providing compelling evidence used in court.

Tell it like it is

Church buildings – Great but not biblical

The cross-cultural challenge

The hidden causes

The culture war

It is no good just to roll up to court expecting a judge to believe you because you are telling the truth even if the other guy is a known criminal!

A judge may believe you, even love you & your cause to bits, but if 'the other dude' lies through his teeth, then it is the evidence a judge will use when making a judgment.

TIP 3:



Getting evidence before you go to court is more important than putting your clothes on. Why? Because it is possible to win a court case without all your clothes on but it is impossible to win without evidence!

Get evidence or keep away from court.

5. A \$3.1 Billion BS Story

Did you complete the workbook exercise from the previous chapters? Turn there now if you haven't – it will only take a couple of seconds.

Remember . . . lawyers lie! . . . and, get your evidence!

In 2008 I invested into a company established by a businessman called Daniel Evans. When he asked for a second tranche, I read his prospectus and called his two personal referrals.

One didn't recall him at first then said that he thought he had exchanged business cards with him in a lift some time previously and another reported serious human relationship problems in the company as a result of employing him.

Daniel has Asperger's Syndrome. In 2008 I investigated him, interviewed him, wrote a private report for my shareholder colleagues and then published a blog post in 2008 warning the world of my findings and prediction of Ormita's global terror. It became the most viewed page on my website as Daniel travelled the globe with his international BS story.

Billed as the world's largest commerce network it was simply a massive conjob by a very talented but deluded 'fruitloop'. Not only could IRTA's lawyers not serve him, they could not even find him! I traced him through dozens of countries, found him in South Africa, exposed him in realtime using technology that he did not know about and eventually closed his entire operation down.

The Ormita Report concluded a 6 month fulltime investigation and caught the attention of an entire global industry. In the process I developed contacts in 31 different countries and learned many of the arts of shooting straight especially when dealing with psychiatric issues.

Interestingly some very welcome funding at the time came from those that I would later also investigate and expose as crooks too in their own way. I also exercised commercial pressure through the very people that the conman had buttered up and used to his advantage.

TIP 4:



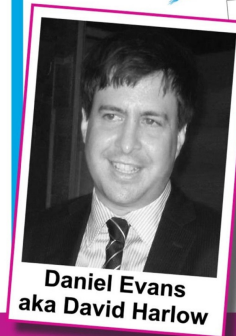
Daniel Evans undertook a short nasty campaign of negative press against me which failed spectacularly because I had done my homework; backed myself; was fearless in pursuit of him & determined to bring his scam to an end. It worked.

As the scandal opened up, I revealed who was turning Queen's evidence in realtime, which exerted huge pressure on others to do the honourable thing despite their commercial losses.

It was a lesson well learned for later situations.

Now, remember to do the workbook!

The Ormita Report



*A truly stunning
international success
story . . . or a con . . .*

A private investigation into the conduct of Daniel Evans
and Ormita - an international 'Commerce Network'

by Dennis A. Smith

6. Bartercard Secrets

Bartercard is a commercial barter operation established in Australia by an ultra-aggressive and 'successful' businessman, Wayne Sharpe.

He was supported by two others and the three of them created arguably what for years was recognised as the best run commercial barter organisation on the planet. But it had some dark secrets . . . indeed many of them.

I have always enjoyed horse-trading, being part of the early Green Dollar movement and New Zealand Barter – New Zealand's first commercial trade exchange.

I joined Bartercard New Zealand decades ago when the New Zealand franchise had only 300 members. I was purchasing the Bartercard franchise for Fiji when Colonel Rambuka 'did his stuff' and we pulled out.

The commercial barter industry essentially creates a branded currency and builds a network of traders around this currency. Ostensibly, the business lives off the fees generated from the trading that occurs within the private network. In theory the greater the number of members, the greater trade volume, the greater the brand and the greater the income to the business.

There are however more lucrative aspects of the business that the currency owners are able to capitalise on . . . creating, selling and buying businesses (franchised agencies) . . . and fraud. When it was in its heyday, Bartercard sold agencies and franchises primarily throughout Australia but also in New Zealand and then globally. NZ has always been its shining light.

Bartercard was born in crime – I have been informed from multiple sources that the original software was stolen – so fraud is these operator's middle name! Legion are the various shenanigans that these crooks got up to over the years . . . ripping off their staff, members, franchisees, shareholders, management, partners, associates, investors and indeed the entire Reciprocal Trade industry globally.

The ability to conceal debt is their secret. This operates at every level of what I call "A PONZI SCAM" starting at the lowest level with the debasing of their currency, the Bartercard Trade Dollar. At its simplest form Bartercard scams its members by encouraging them to supply goods & services in return for a credit – the value of which is pegged to the local currency.

Required to trust the currency operators that the credits and debits always equate, members are then scammed when value disappears from the system & the currency devalues – it's just a simple fraud. Trust us!



TIP 5:



Bartercard asks that others trust them - that their currency is backed by true value. It isn't and never has been.

Fraudsters offer something of little value for something of real value. Beware!

7. Down vs Bartercard

Wellington-based businessman, Nicholas Down is the quintessential “horse-trader from hell” - a guy with Autism whose creative, flexible mind can tackle the toughest trade imaginable!

Give him something to trade or sell, and he'll do a deal somewhere, somehow to solve your problem. He is of course a skilled auctioneer – that's his business, and he's good at it.

But Nic will bend and stretch the rules, until they break, and then some and he did this with Bartercard. His take is that he just stretched them. Theirs was that he broke them.

Getting offside with a manager who 'got his dander up' resulted in a lengthy litigation that frustrated Nic's business opportunities, negatively affected his financial situation and had a serious long-term impact upon his family situation.

He was facing bankruptcy over the dispute.

Nic approached me knowing from my blogging that I was 'onto' the crooks he was fighting. He hoped that I could help him. Indeed, I did. I became his McKenzie Friend in his court battle, helping him to secure a defended hearing (as opposed to a summary judgement) then to commence a counterclaim and we generally make life very uncomfortable for the entity that had done the same to him for the preceding three or four years.

Bartercard sought to prevent exposure of the case, however their attempts to close down my blogging backfired as it only generated more negative press. From my perspective, I used Nic's case to develop my claim that Bartercard could not legitimately claim that their currency wasn't grossly debased. Evidence from Australia that Bartercard management had been buying their own currency at only 20c in the dollar proved that fraud was afoot.

Bartercard's claims that their dodgy currency was on a par with the local currency were just lunacy (as everybody knew its true value) and they were arguably criminal. My blogging had shown that they had expertise at hiding debt, quoting a senior business manager!

The fraud was eventually exposed, the heat going on sufficiently that the Chairman advised the entire global industry that litigation had begun against me – and in multiple jurisdictions. It was a totally false claim [duh!] as no crook wants their dirty laundry aired in public, and proven to be so in due course with, sadly for me, not even the smell of court!

TIP 6:



Entering into litigation is an easy decision for a business skilled in utilising the legal system for their pecuniary gain. This advantage though can be reversed with exposure. Negative press is something that all crooks are desperate to avoid.



I exposed their scam when 'going public' in realtime and showed not only that their IPO was a nonsense, but I also showed the world how the fraud was perpetuated by those in the industry with vested interests.

Bartercard eventually settled with Nic and surprise-surprise, Nic received some cash. A nice result when he'd been facing bankruptcy at their hands previously!

8. International Reciprocal Justice

Playing games with the truth can be a dangerous thing as IRTA learned the hard way. **IRTACard the novel** was a fictitious parody of the real-life connection behind the scenes of IRTA & Bartercard.

The International Reciprocal Trade Association (IRTA) supposedly represented the interests of their commercial barter members. In fact over the years their focus drifted into more survival mode as their members' currencies became debased from mismanagement and a global downturn in the use of commercial barter, but often through outright fraud.

Secretly endorsing one of their members without informing the others, and contrary to logic, common sense and all ethical standards, they exposed themselves to ridicule from the astute.

I was approached by IRTA when I commenced my investigation into Australian-born conman Daniel Evans and his Ormita fraud. Daniel had run afoul of both Ron Whitney (CEO [& now President]) and Annette Riggs (Chairwoman at the time) and things had gotten pretty vicious & nasty between the three of them. That's putting it a little politely! Probably in an effort to prop up his own con, Daniel exposed what he knew to be skeletons in the [IRTA] closet.

My due diligence confirmed some of Daniel's key claims regarding Annette's dodgy past, although it also showed fabrications of a sensitive personal nature regarding Ron Whitney. I engaged with IRTA at the time full-well knowing that there were porkies being told. With the subsequent closure of the Ormita fraud, I turned my attention to the Qoin con which in turn led back to one of those two conmen who had 'effectively bought' their role on the International Board of IRTA.

Further research surrounding the strange relationship between IRTA and one of their members Bartercard occurred on the IPO of Bartercard on the Australian Stock Exchange. Smelling a rat, I established that IRTA not only had endorsed the companies IPO but that it had entered into a secret deal to do much more – a sector of the board at the time making decisions without another sector even knowing!

We generally call that kind of thing, where secret deals are done, corruption.

An interesting side-note to the IRTACard parody was experiencing the difference between English and American humour. In a nutshell it is different.

On the one hand the Poms (and their derivatives such as me, a Kiwi) have a dry 'intelligent' sense of humour.

The Yanks on the other, have none. *[joke!]*



TIP 7:



Expect that when “birds of a feather flock together” there is increased opportunities for abuse to occur as well as increased positive connections. When we know & understand others we have both increased trust & capacity for wrongdoing.

9. Hon Robert Fisher

The Honourable Robert Fisher was a New Zealand High Court Judge for 15 years and was recognised within the legal profession as a judge with an astute legal mind.

His indiscretions though by getting found out for watching 90 minutes of pornography on court computers over a two week period in the early 2000s drew the ire of Prime Minister Helen Clark. Despite a supposed independence of the judiciary, her opinion, (that he had to go) made it difficult for him to keep his job.

A couple of reviews gave him the legal clearance – he did not break the law – but to pass judgement on others while the world knows that you're busy enjoying the sight of naked girls on the computer screen in your office didn't really make it wise to hang around. He didn't.

Samoa had him up there a few times a year hearing Appeal cases – a junket that seemed to suit the nearly-deads of the legal profession – getting paid to travel up to the islands in the sun must have been a hoot.

I met him in his courtroom in Samoa, walked in and sat down to listen to a case I was interested in. Arrogance and rudeness emanated from the bench as he dealt with one of Samoa's top lawyers pretty roughly, and with little cultural understanding. I blogged about this at the time, and was quite taken aback actually.

The end result of some investigative work is that the matter being investigated will go to court – usually things are a civil matter but they are sometimes a criminal matter. Court events are a real part of our lives.

Any group of people with common heritage, values or interests generally protect their own, but they also can use and abuse each other more effectively. You can see this with nationalities who emigrate. In the late 1900s South Africans were the flavour of the moment as they attempted to get out of Apartheid. Many Kiwis would reach out to help them whereas some who had been here a little longer turned on their own – they knew and understood their own, thus knew how to best take advantage of them. Likewise with Samoans who know exactly how to play the new Samoans to town, or the Chinese. It's a natural process, although sad.

Fights between judges are generally kept within the family but sometimes the tension can spill into the courtroom as lawyers and judges have at it. Law Society scraps can get pretty ugly as bickering and egos get their opportunity to shine.



Hon Robert Fisher QC

TIP 8:



We have real freedom when we can easily say, "My word is my bond"

In business . . . at home . . . in court!

Robert Fisher is no exception. My understanding is that some were sad to see him go, but others didn't complain. One thing I am sure of however is that an indiscretion like watching porn on a court PC, especially when the PM at the time goes public with a "Tut-tut; Gotta go!" isn't a description of wisdom.

10. The Dutch International Qoin Con

Exposing crooks on the other side of the world, desperate to be seen as industry thought leaders, to do it all in realtime with a direct line into their lair of deceit which then resulted in their total bankruptcy has to be one of the biggest hoots of my professional investigative career.

Following my successful removal of the conman Daniel Evans and his Ormita fraud from the international reciprocal trade industry, I received a tip-off that one of the board members of IRTA and his partner was also a conman of long-standing.

Another international investigation (this time in The Netherlands) was thus born. Many, many hurtful damning and accurate blog posts also resulted which culminated in the book **The Qoin Con**.

Notable was the immediacy of results and the consternation that occurred as the blogger from Samoa, attacked literally day after day the conmen and their supporters online.

In a script that has to be a plot ready for Hollywood, I found myself listening in realtime to the conmen literally talking to others in The Netherlands from Samoa and having prior knowledge of their plans.

Exposing the crooks skulduggery with evidence before it even gets out into the victims' mailboxes has a massive impact on a conman's confidence. Hearing the consternation as they find that each day, their operation is exposed online on a blogger from Samoa was a joy that warms my heart even to this day.

Qoin held themselves out to be international experts in the alternative currency field and as their credibility came tumbling down, all those who had previously wanted to be seen to be associated with these 'winners' one by one, chose not to sponsor them any more and eventually pulled their financial support totally.

It helped the forces of truth enormously that the bad dudes in this story had ripped off the guy who had restructured their dodgy businesses & that he wasn't very happy with them. It may also be that it only takes a day or so for people in the know to find that there is a Twitter account exposing conmen that are directly associated with your Twitter account and that Social Media gossip can and does get around certain top officials regardless of how much you try to issue BS and develop fake websites, Facebook accounts etc.

This book achieved its objectives without even one copy being printed for the mere knowledge that the Qoin brand was enough for politicians to distance themselves from an impending scandal. Bankruptcy followed . . .



Dennis A. Smith

TIP 9:



People who live by the gullibility of those who control public purse can see their income streams dry up the instant adverse publicity becomes a possibility. The little guy has a huge force at his disposal when he understands how to strike at an adversaries Achilles Heel.

11. Qoin Bankruptcy

The demise of the Dutch Qoin fraud shows the incredible power that the Internet provides those who know and understand how to use it.

In a display of massive fire-power daily blogging throughout a period of weeks literally bankrupted a high profile scandal based in The Netherlands. For ten years, conmen Rob van Hilten and Edgar Kampers had operated a scam whereby they sought and obtained public monies (totalling millions of Euros) for their personal benefit – primarily their lifestyle.

When this moved from scamming public monies from friendly politicians to the small-time investor I moved to actively close them down. Having proof that their wild claims of projections through the roof were indeed insanity, I activated a series of hard hitting blog posts that showed the conmen's various moves to counter the adverse press, and I did it in realtime.

Smart investors pulled out. Others stayed in and lost all. Those caught previously sought to cover up their past errors of judgement and the crooks schemed their way out of their pickle. I published their actual list of priorities for the upset investors and creditors. Staff and key suppliers were right down on their actual repayment schedule. This exposure was a crippling blow to their con because they were then left to their own devices without premises or staff.

Still the pressure amped up as I showed that they were not only going broke but that they had been broke for years. Nobody can continue in business, certainly when you are in the confidence game, when there is somebody out there telling the world who you are and what scam you're operating. Sunlight is indeed the best disinfectant and so it was only a matter of time before I managed to close them down. Suspecting that the end was nigh, I went in for the kill with an extraordinarily aggressive campaign of exposure, day after day revealing more & more, daily until the inevitable happened and they declared bankruptcy.

An interesting thing happened on the way to their bankruptcy and in some ways I feel for

an older man who got set-up to put his foot in it, but in others it just showed how fools can have top jobs and operate beyond their capacity. Early in my exposure of the conman Rob van Hilten as an international Board Member of IRTA, an accomplice who was located in The Netherlands and knew of my investigation asked Ron Whitney (CEO of IRTA) about my blog posts showing that one of his Board Members was actually a conman.



TIP 10:



Most investigations commence with an unusual experience & are maintained with simple questioning. Stories are developed over time (sometimes with professional assistance) & a resulting work such as a blog post, book, video or documentary can provide us with a permanent record.

12. Aussie BBX Bravado

The BBX Investigation commenced in earnest when I received the entire BBX International membership database (including balances AND in many cases unencrypted PIN numbers and passwords) via my Tipline.

Most would now know the negative impact that such an incredible security breach would have meant for any business involved in online trading.

The one thing worse though that would have put shivers up the spine of anyone seriously interested in whether or not BBX was a fraud (which it was and still is) was that the balances of the members got out!

OMG!

To put this incredible shame into context, let's take the New Zealand operations as just one example out of the multiple countries involved.

Members in debt to the BBX exchange totalled half a million trade dollars but members with credits in BBX totalled \$7.5m.

I will be first to admit that understanding alternative currencies requires a bit of thought. We will all get there in due course as the global financial markets tighten and cash becomes less available, but the basics of 'clean' money are simple. Mutual Credit is it.

In a mutual credit barter exchange, which is what 99% of barter exchanges are, the debits must always equal the credits. When one member buys from another member the balance of one member goes up according to the value of the trade and the other down by the same amount.

Should there be a difference then questions should be asked over where the 'cookie' went. Any difference between the total of the members in debit and the members in credit must then be the basis of any fraud investigation, i.e. the 'cookie jar' is short!

The release of, and my analysis of, this data proved that in New Zealand's case alone, \$6.9m of value had disappeared! This is unequivocal proof of a \$7m fraud!

So the organisation that polices fraud of over half a million dollars is the Serious Fraud Office. Their response, "Go away!" And when asked to give their reasons, "No!"

And the Aussie owners of this crooked trade exchange did what? They issued a cease and desist letter to the investigative blogger, ramped up their fees enforcement and cashed in with legal action to enforce their credit to cash conversion efforts!

Makes you sick eh?

The Jews have a phrase that summarises this audacity or bravado nicely, *chutzpah*.



by Dennis A. Smith

TIP 11:



New Zealand's Serious Fraud Office is the authority charged with investigating fraud of over half a million dollars. It has exclusivity (the Police refer larger cases to this authority) to investigate and either does not wish to nor cannot investigate barter fraud. Crooks \$7m; NZ Public:0

13. Christian Businessmen

Christians in business can be a challenge, especially for other Christians. We know how to use our kin!

Colin Craig is a wealthy Christian businessman who founded a Conservative NZ political party.

His conduct came under scrutiny with a dispute that became public knowledge with a woman who worked for him and exposure at the hands of an aggressive blogger, Cam Slater. High profile litigation matters bankrupted one, and embarrassed the other.

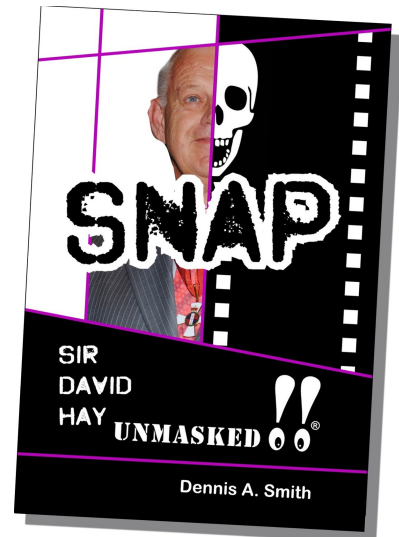
Many oddities could be observed and central to the troubles were psychiatric issues . . . my assessment is that Colin has High Functioning Autism (aka Asperger's Syndrome). Intelligent top-achieving people struggling to understand human dynamics especially when mixed with faith and sexuality makes for a very challenging melting-pot!



Sir David Hay. In 2018 I had the unfortunate 'privilege' to engage with the son of Keith Hay [Homes], Sir David.

I struggled to see humility in a man who failed to understand that some people didn't fear those with more money than them, and who lived by principal. My book SNAP, presented the story of a multimillionaire who lied in court to save less than a couple of thousand dollars.

The book detailed all communications in full, including litigation documents, affidavits and commentary.



Gaze Burt Lawyers

In times gone past the reputation of this Auckland law firm was beyond reproach. One of their team had robbed a client – the principals paid personally, losing their homes in the process but they had retained their honour.

Sadly, the story seemed to repeat as my father and I experienced aggression and arrogance from a newer member of the team – eventually leaving the company shortly after my blogging.

The experience was also a lesson in corporate apologising because the 'good' guys within the company who were sent in to fix the PR disaster didn't keep up their end of the bargain – making matters worse!

Be genuine if you apologise to an offended client, or don't apologise at all!



14. Flat Earth, Moon Landing & more

The concept of a “Conspiracy Theory” and/or the label of a “Conspiracy Theorist” was unspoken of prior to the JFK assassination. This condescending phrase is not only a failure of logic (is there no such thing as ANY conspiracy?) it was consciously introduced into society by the very perpetrators of the Presidential murder in order to bring doubt into the validity of any daring to doubt the official story!

Those who support the Moon Landing narrative mockingly use the phrase, “Hoax Believers [HB's]” again to imply craziness on the part of the doubters.

If a movie actress slips up and calls Obama's wife a “tranny” then she may be silenced and the newspeak won't mention a thing . . . until they have no choice. That I have a photo of Michael in his football gear before he became a Michelle then becoming Mrs Obama is not allowed to be talked about, yet!

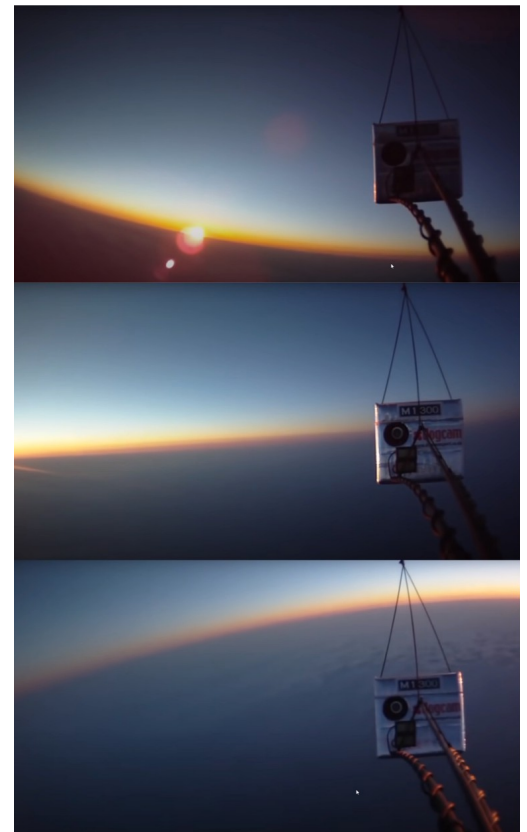
Control of language is not an accident, as Orwell noted in 1984 when he had one of his characters explain, “Don't you see that the whole aim of Newspeak is to narrow the range of thought? In the end we shall make thought crime literally impossible - no words in which to express it.”

Aware of this, I try to use the words “homosexuality and gay” in their traditional manner; I note that purple is my favourite colour simply because of its colour and I use the rainbow in a non-sexualised manner. I'm dogmatic not racially insensitive calling Whangarei, “Wong-gar-ray” & the Whanganui River as, the “Wong-ga-nooeee” because that was what the society I was brought up in called them at the time. I'm unrepentant & I oppose arrogance.

I call myself a “Conspiracy Analyst” because I am an independent thinker who resists social pressure. The three photos shown here are all taken from a swinging camera on a very high publicity balloon – one that reached space and could photograph the curvature of the earth. As the camera lens swung back and forth in relation to the earth's base shape, it reported the curve, an apparent flat earth but also a [seriously] concave earth. Any thoughts as to which frame the Flat Earthers used in their marketing materials?

I'm OK with that cherrypicking for impact, even for financial gain but NOT if deception is used to deny that the earth (in only a few frames) LOOKS flat in this photograph, because it does! As it does too, when you stand on it & simply look for the curvature.

The Earth is NOT flat despite what it looks like in one photo hand picked from a video sequence. Just like NASA did NOT send men to the moon in their flying bath tubs.



TIP 12:



Truth is obtained from applying sound logic onto fact. Independent thought is maturity in action. Asking good questions at the right time in the right place from the right people gives us the best chance to get to the bottom of the matter in question.

15. Uncharitable Charities

The back cover of this book tells it all . . .

“OFF THE RAILS is a mixture of history and human intrigue . . . A truly humbling and motivational story!”

“Taumarunui's Memory Bank sold in 2018, thus ending three decades of drama.

“What actually happened during those 30 years and where has the money gone?

“More importantly where are those tens of thousands of precious memories bequeathed to the Museum Trust for safe-keeping?

“Following an investigation into macabre historical events, Dennis answers these questions and explains the creation of (and transition to) KCET with a large Appendix of the key documents.



“How has the King Country historian Ron Cooke weathered the turbulence of multiple court cases, lock outs, politics and drama surrounding his life's work and brainchild? In “Cookie's Corner” we hear his answers in the founder's own words - short and to the point.”

In this resource I included several dozen historical images from the KCET library, including the spectacular train wreck on the front cover.

A politically incorrect book, Off the Rails is held behind the counter in the local library, available only on request. It is an A4 resource printed on gloss paper so presents quite professionally.

Local historian Ron Cooke's comments have historical significance as in general the King Country community only has this book as a record of the political shenanigans that occurred between two charitable trusts over the sale of The Memory Bank.



TIP 13:



Good intentions abound, but many fail to act in time and old age or other adversity strikes pushing the capturing of history into the too hard basket.

Get your story out while you can!

It is also a warning for those who have a story to tell . . . get the story out there before it is too late. Age creeps up on us all and many a well-meaning person has ended up with nothing as a result of good intentions not acted upon in time.

16. Talamua Cover-up

Capturing information online is an automated process with information published remaining available forever. This can be a two-edged sword as Samoan news organisation Talamua found out to their (and the Prime Minister's) embarrassment.

Corruption within the Samoan ruling elite was brought into the public eye in the late twenty-teens with the creation of an online blogger O Le Palemia (OLP).

OLP has, to put it politely, caused 'merry hell' for the establishment not only claiming, but proving that serious long-term corruption goes right to the top.

Lagi Keresoma is a Samoan freelance journalist who writes for Talamua On-Line News, a commercial operation owned and run by Lance Polu, a “man with a past” but who takes a strong feed from the government of the day.

In June 2018, Lagi wrote a story entitled “O Le Palemia ghost writers identities revealed” but then retracted it a few hours later with an explanation that the blogger's identity was the subject of a police investigation.

Oops!

But not everything is what it seems . . . her explanation of where she got the story in the first place puts this whole drama into proper context – she took the information from the Prime Minister's public announcement of this information! A smart girl to follow the source, note the newsworthy significance & write first.

So the Samoan Prime Minister Tuila'epa, whose reputation is already in shreds with most ex-pat Samoans who follow OLP, outed whom he thought these individuals were on a public forum; a journalist did what all good journalists do . . . and now there is an “HTTP Error 404 – File or Directory not found” statement on that page and the retraction published shortly after remains.

You cannot retract publication online. You can burn books and hunt down every copy of Mein Kampf on the planet but you cannot retract it once it has gone out on the 'Interwebs' in digital form. Missing information raises huge questions as to why it is missing.

The takehomes from this is that the Prime Minister of Samoa screwed up – he is usually better than this. My guess is that he was so excited to know who his adversary finally was that blood rushed to his head and ignored his usual political instinct for caution.

OLP is more than one person.

You can never “retract” information online without raising questions in the process!



TIP 14:



There is no such thing as retracting digital information when published online.

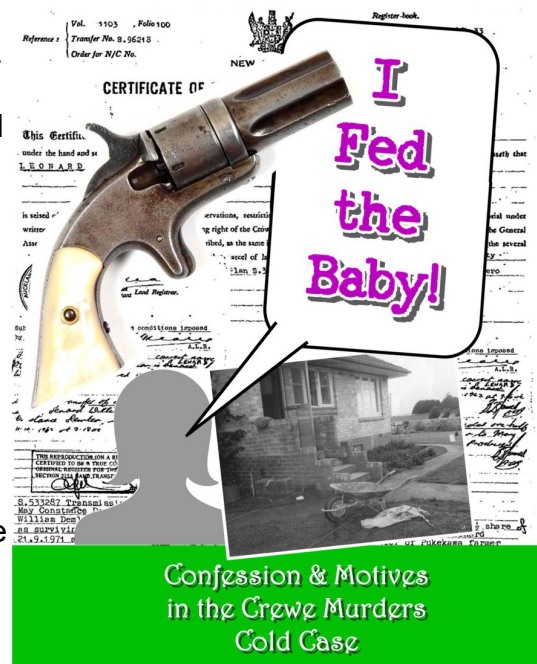
Google archives many sites every hour; retains a cache for a month. Websites are also archived formally & informally and often by the publisher, usually forever.

17. It's All in a Name

Establishing the name of a story requires an understanding of both the story and the marketplace. In the case of the book, **I Fed the Baby – Confession & Motives in the Crewe Murders Cold Case**, author John Ingley noticed that there was what he saw as a code of silence from many in the Pukekawa region. Meeting and hearing of the local farmers who knew more than they let on helped him to see that the Police at the time did not have the respect of a significant part of the local community.

His first book title therefore was proposed to be, "Code of Silence". As his research work progressed though, he found that the motives for the murders were primarily financial and thus his book came to be called, "Legacy of Greed".

The final book title became "I Fed the Baby!" when it was established that the identity of the 'mystery' woman was of more interest to the public who remembered the case than anything else, and that his girlfriend at the time was the woman who in 1980 confessed to feeding the Crewe baby in 1970.



John Ingley

The book sub-title is also packed with meaning by using rich, carefully selected keywords.

It's not always possible to see the big picture at the outset of an investigation, and it can take an outside set of eyes to pick up on important things. It doesn't mean that we need contribution from others to complete our work, but more than one person involved can certainly bring depth to our understanding.

Noting how John Ingley came to research the Crewe murders is also an interesting example of how one man simply asked questions, backed himself and did the necessary work to solve a crime that many before him had failed to achieve. Puzzled by the true identity of his girlfriend at the time, his decades of asking questions, smelling a rat and then asking more was the genesis of his posthumously published exposé.

TIP 15:



We all have a story.

Sometimes we need help to define it, to appreciate its value, to determine who else would want to hear it . . . and then to tell it!

Fifty years after the Crewes were killed, after many articles, news stories & books have been published, the New Zealand Police admits that they don't know who the murderer was; nor why they were killed; nor who fed the baby following the murders. They also say they do not know the murder weapon.

John Ingley's book really gets the story out!

18. Linda Dzaferic, IRD

Several lessons can be taken from the [mis]conduct of an employee of New Zealand's most powerful government agency, the GST people – The “Grab, Snatch & Take” Department – Inland Revenue.

Personalisation

People with power often use their power to mask, hide or endorse their misconduct. It is legislatively difficult to prosecute the authorities – be this the tax man or the local government or indeed any government department. This anonymisation of responsibility can be reversed for increasing any impact in moves of defence within a 'war'.

On receiving dishonest and unprofessional treatment at the hands of one of these people who hide their misconduct behind the authority granted by the state, I obtained a high resolution photograph of a Linda Dzaferic, a senior manager within NZ's Inland Revenue and used it on the front cover of a tell-all book. Threatening to publish the details of her misdeed and her and the department's subsequent cover-up, altered the position of the employee in question substantially.

With the face of corruption identified, instead of “one little guy with no chance against the system” the battle lines were drawn up along the lines of a true “one-on-one” and the playing field was instantly levelled.

Covering Up

There are different ways to cover up something untoward – inquiries with limited or narrow terms of reference, ignoring any trouble, distortion, obfuscation, threatening conduct, retaliatory actions, and when the IRD an adverse assessment, investigation or even litigation is always possible. Plausible denial is often used by politicians. In IRD's case a formal complaint was handled by the person complained about who said, “I'm happy with the way we handled the issue!” and taking it still further up the chain of command “no fault found” from a clear breach of due process. “Move along please. Nothing to see here!”

Sharing Personal Information

Obtaining a high resolution photograph such as that of Linda Dzaferic and then using it on the cover of a book is an aggressive stance, especially when taking on the integrity of arguably the government's most powerful department. One has to have the unequivocal evidence of the individual's mis-conduct and it has to be a clear case of misconduct too, sufficient that Crown Law cannot find a grounds for litigation.



TIP 16:



Using personal information such as a photo is a balancing act between the potential to cause an individual privacy concerns and the public interest. Linda Dzaferic shared this photo on both her Facebook and her Linked In profiles.

19. 'Defamatory' Naming & Shaming

In 1970 Jeannette & Harvey Crewe were shot at point blank range with a .22 pistol. The late Te Kuiti author John Ingley revealed in his book, **'I Fed the Baby – Confession & Motives in the Crewe Murders Cold Case'** how he had solved the case.

Hunting Pam is a short book that gives the public the reasons why I believe that Leslee Sinton (retired teacher of Orakei, Auckland) and Pamela Ann Boroevich (teacher of Te Kuiti) are associated with these crimes.

According to a local lawyer Max Lamb, who says that he has known Pam for 50 years, Pam did not feed the Crewe baby. She was only 16 years at the time, attended Te Kuiti High School and didn't have a driver's license. What this all has to do with the specifics mentioned in this book though beats me!

Max has also threatened litigation threatening to sue if even one copy of this book is shared. I included his email in the book, my reply to it telling him that the book and website of the same name will be published as promised, and commentary on his lack of professionalism.

Most lawyers I know don't appreciate my advice that they need to seek legal advice, but he does!

The naming of a suspect like Pam and her look alike Leslee in a public format like a book and website is a deliberate calculated act that comes in a deliberate sequence of events within an investigation. While Pam's lawyer hopes, and indeed says, that his legal threat will bring the matters to an end, it is rather just the beginning. Sure, it may help bring matters to a head.

People who know something that can help those who want to know who killed the Crewes and who fed the baby now have more information upon which they too can ask questions. Hopefully Max is a man of his word and will sue for defamation. Sadly however he is likely to get good legal advice and hope that things will die down; nobody will ask his client any questions and the secrets of 1970 remain that – secrets.

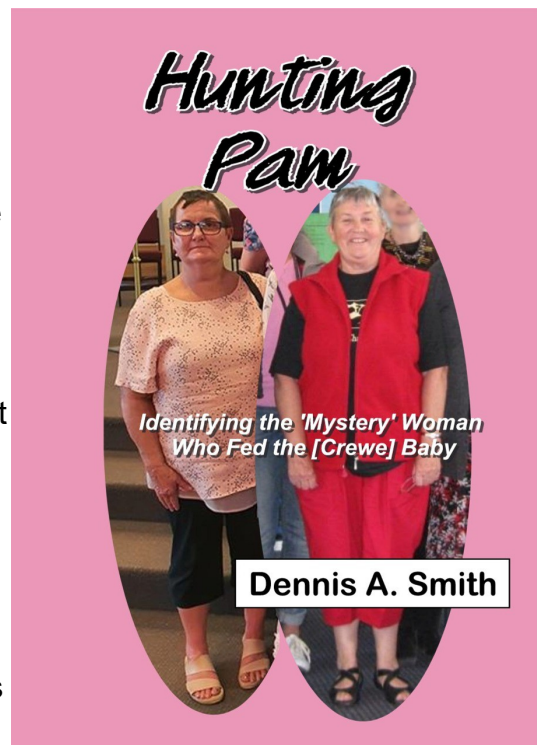
The role of a private investigator can cross over into that of an activist at the drop of a hat. For me, I see red when people lie to me. Foolishly, most do.

TIP 17:



Defamation is widely recognised as a very difficult matter to litigate.

Defamation isn't just about speaking the truth. It also involves the proof of malice, our [re]actions & honest belief.



Pam's lawyer has advised me that his client doesn't want me to contact her again – harassment & so on. Got that! This has of course ensured that my simple questions of identity have to be addressed in a more public manner – websites, book and possibly in time, by the authorities and the media.

An own goal, methinks!

20. Dennis A. Smith

Author, blogger & principal of Writing the Wrong, Dennis A. Smith has created a logo that intertwines three concepts.

Consider this logo now (to the right) and attempt to divine the three concepts . . .

A light-bulb represents wisdom, knowledge or wisdom such as when we have an “Ah ha! Moment”, e.g “when the light comes on”. It is also an example of revealing the truth, the phrase Writing the Wrong uses is that “the cockroaches flee when the light comes on!”

Asking questions is one of the, if not THE key attribute to truthseeking. Investigating something is always asking one question after another. What happened? Who did what? When and [most importantly] why did they do it?

An investigator will never stop asking questions until he/she understands something.

A strong valid opinion results from having asked the right questions and the right time from the right people to know enough to formulate that opinion. It may not always be correct, but it is usually enough to draw a reasonable conclusion of fact.

A New Zealander, with half-caste Maori children, I included the koru into a combined lightbulb and question-mark – both strong components of the logo. The koru is the least noted component of the logo, and more recognisable to Kiwis familiar with the fern symbolism.

My personal byline is “Always thinking”. My online handle is “VICTUSINAMBITUS” - Latin: Living/life on the circumference/edge.

Develop your own personal or business logo, byline or story by thinking through the components of your message. One business chose their byline “. . . where you are a person and not a number!” as a result of the founder's son's description of the secret of his father's business - treating people as humans.

Brainstorm with others & think about things from others' perspective when working out how to present yourself. Remember that integrity in marketing is critical in a country and a culture where we can “smell BS at a hundred paces”. Don't claim to be a “wonderful woman” when you're known as an “ungoldly gossip”, or to be “the best in your industry” when you're only 20!



TIP 18:



The art of warfare teaches us to build our opponent a golden bridge for his retreat.

The bible exhorts us to avoid warfare by initiating reconciliation while the other King is far away, probably because only the bankers really win a war!

21. Failing to Bust

'BUSTED - The failed Cannabis Ban' is a large book written (but never published) by Brodie Andrews, a long-term Marijuana proponent, and dope user, now an addict in denial.

The author sought feedback and assistance from Writing the Wrong but failed to take the advice given. It is a testimony to multiple failures, some due to the author's substance abuse; some due to his personality, style and independence.

Note in the attached image the plain appearance of the capitalised text. Most of the world uses visual clues to measure the value to them – “a picture is worth a thousand words”, is the appropriate saying. “We hear and forget but see and remember”, is another. While some writers use the written word only to convey a concept, graphics & presentation are important.

This is why Writing the Wrong generally completes even a draft front cover as early as possible when a marketing exercise is required.

How many colour graphics do you see in this book for example? There is good reason for this.

The author engaged professional advice but then did not apply the advice given mainly because he used the subject research and book writing experience for his personal growth and development. He found the subject fascinating for him personally, and his text grew and grew and grew over-scope, over-budget, and over-time. As a result he missed the huge opportunity that existed in the New Zealand marketplace with legalisation a topic of public interest with possible law changes.

An investigation; or a writing project; especially a book publishing event is a hugely challenging exercise and it is essential to scope a project at the outset. It need not be a detailed, end product with a finite budget and clear participants (indeed this is often not possible at the preliminary stages) but it MUST have clearly identified goals by the project lead.

'BUSTED – The failed Cannabis Ban' failed to materialise itself (certainly as a commercial project) and then didn't achieve any of its goals because they were not well defined at the outset and the principal changed them frequently when they were identified.

TIP 19:



You can easily change a timeframe, budget, words, pictures & even people involved in a particular project but changing the objectives, goals or purpose mid-stream will create chaos, pain & loss!

Table of Contents	
(Preface).....	3
Preface.....	14
THE RICH WHITES... "GOLDEN RULE..."	14
WE WITH THE GOLD' RULE...	14
'WAR ON DRUGS'.....	14
1.....	16
THE FAILED 'TOTAL CANNABIS PROHIBITION'.....	16
A SERIOUS SOCIAL-POLICY DEBACLE IN NZ.....	16
RODGER AND RICHARD GOT TO TEAR UP THE NZ SOCIAL FABRIC.....	16
AVOIDING THE TRUTH ABOUT POT.....	17
MANY RECREATIONAL DRUG PROBLEMS.....	17
De-FACTO-DECRIMINALISATION.....	18
THE USE OF ILLEGAL 'POT' IN NZ.....	18
UK de-FACTO-DECRIMALISE MINOR OFFENCES.....	19
2.....	20
LEGALISED HYPOCRISY.....	20
STUCK WITH OBSOLETE AND ABSURD LAWS.....	20
IN NZ... "THE LAW FOR ONE"... no more.....	20
SERIOUS DAMAGE TO POLICE / YOUTH RELATIONS.....	21
SAVAGE PUNISHMENTS FOR A VICTIMLESS CRIME.....	22
SKILLED UNEMPLOYMENT, DESTROYING MORE SOCIAL CAPITAL.....	22
NZ TOP COPS STALLED REFORM OF DEFUNCT LAWS.....	23
OMIT TO DISCHARGE A LEGAL DUTY.....	23
3.....	25
CONSEQUENCES OF THE SCARCITY OF NATURAL CANNABIS.....	25
DEATHS AND HEALTH DAMAGE FROM HARD DRUGS.....	25
ANTI-DEPRESSANTS "TO EASE THE LINGERING SADNESS".....	26
PHARMACEUTICALS HAVE NO ELECTRICAL 'IONIC' CHARGE.....	26
NZ DEATHS FROM HARD AD-HOCK ALTERNATIVES TO POT.....	27
ALCOHOL.....	27
DATURA DAMAGE.....	28
DEATHS FROM SNIFFING LPG.....	28
FLY SPRAY DEATH.....	29
ANOTHER BUTANE DEATH.....	30
4.....	31

22. Bert Potter, Centrepont

In the 1960's & 1970's people feeling oppressed from tight societal rules desired to remove themselves from the social expectation that sex best occurred within the confines of marriage.

In this environment, New Age 'guru' Bert Potter established a community in Albany on Auckland's North Shore to provide an alternative lifestyle for those with a liberal take. Centrepont was essentially a free-sex commune – anything goes, sort of thing.

Community members came from across society but with a particular attraction for professional people (doctors & lawyers) with 'liberal desires' who all contributed to the community financially and practically.

The 'community within a community' gained notoriety through substantial negative press with a focus on Bert's approach to society's regulatory influence over his values. After some decades of contentious but successful communal living, the community divided and self-dissipated.

Eventually Bert was incarcerated for a range of sex-related crimes.

Investigating a community with a strong unity of purpose; that has 'hunkered down' in defence mode; and that holds views or standards differing from the norm requires maturity and an equal sense of purpose from the investigator. Learning things, experiencing and seeing things that cause one deep personal challenges is a huge task, not to be undertaken lightly for the faint of heart.

Many will run and hide from those challenges. Standing up to face the personal challenges though can bring increased maturity; greater understanding; and eventually make the world a better place.



23. Publishing Evidence Prior

Any act of publishing material related to a matter while it is before the courts has the potential to be seen as an effort to influence the hearing or the judge. This is a big 'no-no' and can be seen as an act called "contempt of court".

Not so information already published, which can also be used as evidence in court.

'And They Said: Powerful quotes used in evidence' is a book that puts the evidence planned to be eventually used in litigation into the public domain prior to litigation commencing. It details almost 300 critical quotes going back decades that can all be used as evidence in court to support one particular parties position. This is important because the contending parties are charitable trusts, thus public interest is a critical component of the dispute.

Publishing the book does more than simply putting evidence in the public domain though, it makes the matter public for all to see and understand the position that the aggrieved party has; it explains why the aggrieved party thinks the way it does and it gives the public the opportunity to address any concerns before a matter goes to court.

It also makes the defending party less able to say, or claim that they "didn't know" or "didn't understand" or that they were ambushed or tricked in some way. Often people taking a defensive position will inform their legal advisors of factors that endorse only their side of a dispute. Objectivity is a difficult thing when you've got 'skin in the game'.

It is possible that the client of this investigation may obtain settlement prior to incurring substantial legal costs as a result.

In this case, one of the parties who read an advance copy of the book has already said, "I can see how you have come to the conclusions that you did!" which is as close to an apology as you are likely to ever get from an associated guilty party. Fortunately they altered their position as a result of reading, which has to be considered a minor success.

Litigation based on false (or partial) information abounds. A wise adjudicator will assess the pros and cons of each party's legal arguments and if it is clear that one is likely to prevail, they should be encouraged to settle before matters are made worse. On the other

hand though it is a sound legal strategy to up the odds if you have a strong hand.

Giving advice on the results of an investigation is often an important part of a Private Investigator's life. The different advice "Let it all go!" or "Sock it to 'em!" can have far reaching consequences, & the importance of exercising patience & wisdom cannot be understated.



TIP 20:



Most Private Investigators prefer to work in the background out of sight.

The rubber hits the road however when the job is done – should we run & hide the information found or stand & fight?

24. Taumarunui Museum Trust

The Taumarunui Museum Trust was conceptualised and founded by King Country historian Ron Cooke. A trusted photographer in Taumarunui for many years, he had collected the archived newspapers, photograph collections and so on for decades, many having entrusted their family heirlooms to him for safe keeping.

He was tireless in his desire to secure, protect and share his and others' life's work and conceptualised a repository for the region's taonga.

He promoted his ideas through the local newspapers and business groups during the 1970s & 1980s. He established the trust as a charitable organisation and spearheaded the purchase of a two-storey building which they named The Memory Bank.

For some decades the Taumarunui Museum Trust operated from the building and while there was a substantial dysfunction within the trust that resulted in litigation and deep division within the community they did remain a viable operation.

In 2018 though, the trustees eventually determined to sell up and did so. They evicted their founder and his collection of photos and archives, and refused to share any of the income with the founder whom they considered to be intransigent over his continued refusal to gift his collection to them.

In 2018, they conspired to gift \$50,000.00 (the residue of the building sale) to the local council who promoted a new local museum in the Railway station, a project that was supported by all other local historical entities.

Ron Cooke and Dennis A. Smith established a second charitable trust King Country Education Trust and KCET purchased the collection from Ron Cooke.

In 2019 KCET commenced litigation. KCET's position is that:

1. The people of the King Country gave to TMT (a charitable trust) primarily to support the housing and preservation of Ron Cooke's collection;
2. The TMT Trustees had (by way of the original trust deed) the legal right to sell The Memory Bank building and to evict Ron Cooke & his collection;
3. They also had the right to determine the use of those funds but that this was only subject to their fulfilling the terms of the gifting of the building (i.e. the housing of Ron Cooke's collection); and
4. When the TMT Trustees refused to assist KCET as new owner of Ron's Collection to house that it committed a Breach of Trust.

Photos above: The material that the TMT had in its possession after Ron Cooke's eviction.



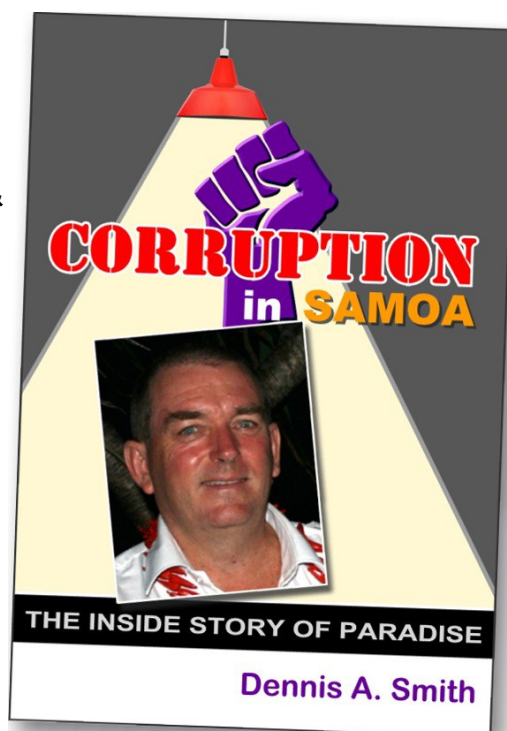
25. Paying the Price

The book **Corruption in Samoa** has had a serious impact on many people, not least the author.

I was 'close' to the Prime Minister of Samoa, Tuila'epa from my arrival in Samoa in 2009 for the first two years. Tui, as he asked to be called, wined & dined the new-boy on the block and loved the positivity and ideas that "the Palagi" brought to Samoa.

Equally enjoyable was the novelty of my engaging constructively with the Prime Minister for a couple of years. That closeness however ceased abruptly when the CEO of Samoa Tourism, Sonja Hunter, put the kibosh on a JV that the PM had tried to establish – an international Samoa Day.

Having spent money on the project, I considered myself ripped off and effectively went bush for three years. In 2015 I wrote about my experiences in this book and gave a copy to Tuila'epa as previously agreed.



The book detailed direct experiences within five government departments whereby racism and corruption was explained, but none of this appeared to phase the PM in the slightest – he was of course head poncho of a corrupt country and was skilled at dealing with negative press. What he found intensely embarrassing however was the naming of the CEO of Samoa Tourism as his mistress, something not widely known at the time.

"You've got a lot to learn about Samoa. You'll be exposing yourself to court action if you publish!" was the essence of his feedback.

"You are rude and should never speak to a guest in your country like that. You've got a lot to learn about me, and I'm publishing!" was the essence of my reply.

I also stated that if he wanted me to sell more copies of the book then he should "have my immigration status reviewed" - a phrase used by a detractor to the PM in my early days in Samoa. Two years later, Tui actually did this secretly. He had to break the law to achieve it, I was tricked into leaving and refused re-entry despite having a Samoan wife, three step children, and written proof from Samoa Immigration that I was in Samoa on a valid permit.

I did ask Tui what he really wanted and offered to leave Samoa. "If you just want me out, tell me to go and I will go" I said. His later response was that of a typical political coward.

The price of speaking the truth to the top Samoan bully was everything I owned: monetary, family heirlooms, relationships. everything except for a notebook computer & one suitcase.

The flipside however is that the little people, and those who know the truth about their sad, corrupt, greedy, crooked leadership is that they tell me privately, secretly to never stop speaking the truth. They get hope from the fact that somebody out there, somewhere knows and understands their plight. Among other things they call me a "national treasure".

On one side I lost all - on the other I now understand how power affects & attracts greedy political leaders & the respect of a few. It costs to speak the truth. I paid the price.

26. Olinda Woodroffe



Olinda Woodroffe is a Samoan lawyer who lives in Remuera with her husband who comes from a similar industry. She exudes passion and her mind multitasks well. In many senses she is a formidable opponent with a never-say-die fighting attitude.

For years she has shared legal wisdom on a weekly radio presentation in Australia. Olinda sought out help from us to use the Internet for the promotion of her work. We developed her a website and her staff uploaded her talks as they found time.

Olinda made a name for herself in Samoa by tackling high profile cases and taking on the government, and indeed actually winning some of her cases. In Samoa her profile is ultra-high. Indeed her name is synonymous with legal success and justice, although she does not always win all her cases and her colleagues know her ego very well.

In one of her cases she undertook to sue the embattled ex-High Court Judge Hon Robert Fisher, QC for a million quid.

Whether she had her marbles all together when she initiated this (you generally can't sue judges doing their duty unless they are way out of order) or if she did this for a publicity stunt or to make a statement to the dude to back off and give her some slack is up for grabs but I published a post describing this legal scrap online.

I also was prepared to make a statement by way of Affidavit of the treatment that I saw Fisher dish out to her in court.



With power comes responsibility and the role as a blogger and investigator can be conflicting at times. I operate in the limelight, by choice. I want to be seen for who I am and to be fearless to speak it like I see it. Like Olinda I want to be respected for who I am and what I represent – truth, justice and all those good things!

27. Getting Factual With Fiction

Writing fiction can be harder than non-fiction which is essentially just recounting facts, for one needs to know the subject intimately before one can speak definitively & authoritatively in our story.

Let Go The Peanut is a fictional story of a couple going through their lessons of learning about money. It teaches important concepts about money – what it actually is and how we engage with it.

As the couple determine to get out of debt and they engage with non-cash transactions their lives change as the opportunities around them expand massively.

The underlying premise of the book is that usury, the charging of interest is ungodly, and that ensnares us. We are forever told that the love of money is the root of all evil. Subtly, societal pressure trap us into thinking that all of value is measurable in monetary terms - when it isn't.

Breaking free from this paradigm though requires an effort, and it costs us. To save his life from the approaching hunter, a monkey must let go of the peanut in his hand in order to retrieve it from a gourd previously set as a trap.

This monetary enslavement is both a conceptual thing and a practical thing. It is no use telling someone that they are drowning – they need a hand up. What's the point of knowing that an approaching truck is going 86.75km per hour and that he's on the wrong side of the road? Yours! In order to survive, you need to know where to go to get out of the way in the few seconds that you have left.

A story that is based on real experiences from a lifetime of someone else's learning helps take people into another world sufficient that they can apply those lessons into their lives.

Theory and teaching is all very well and good, but the sharing of case studies and life experiences give others the chance to learn about how things could be better for them. Writing skills ARE important. One has to be engaging, and conform to social norms. Short sentences help. Correct grammar and spelling also prevent distractions

When a story is based on real-life experiences and connects with a reader it will be believable and may change the world!



TIP 21:



Sharing the results of an investigation in a manner that is meaningful for others can be a lot harder than completing the initial research for ourselves.

Using a story telling technique can help.

28. Samoa Ventures

My experiences in Samoa were challenging, a Palagi being a target from the outset due to the widespread perception that the colour of my skin made me a millionaire. That would be fine except for the hugely draining sense of entitlement that permeated Samoa.

I fulfill the role of the prophet, speaking forth the wisdom entrusted me, more than the predictive.

Connecting the Dots however contained both analysis of the crisis of the day plus predictions. These predictions came to pass, of course.

Prime Minister Tuila'epa liked my ideas and (until compromised) supported SWAP, the Samoa Web Ambassadors Programme [logo on the book].

I established **Samoa Escrow** as an online & physical service to ex-pat Samoans wishing to have a local Palagi issue funds only when [primarily] building services were required. Samoa Builders.com created our business. Builders there were notorious for taking money and failing to deliver. Escrow services are critical for business when trust is absent. Samoan lawyers too had difficulty being trusted. We attempted to work with a local bank, but failed.

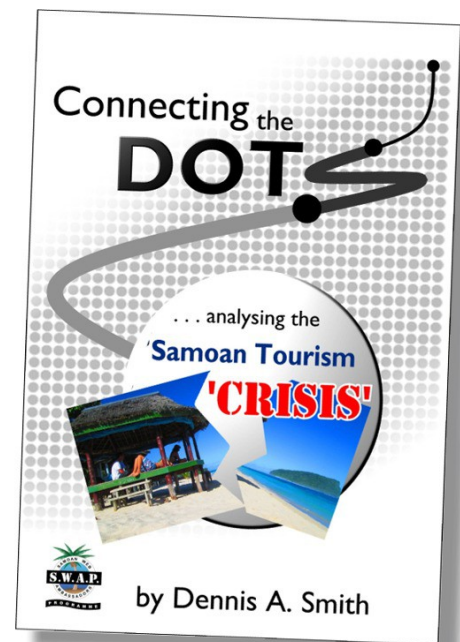
Samoa Village Stays was my highest profile business that generated huge goodwill. Taking Palagi into rural Samoa was an exceedingly difficult challenge but had a stunning impact when both cultures had a positive attitude.

I launched **Club Samoa** as a concept to bring foreign investment into Samoa. **Club Wairua** is our New Zealand equivalent. My Samoan version of community focussed on the culture. Our NZ version is focussed on budget housing.

My base in Samoa was a 5 acre block that we leased from the Samoan government in Falelauniu (East Aleisa) on which we built a backpackers – **Camp Samoa**.

Over the years hundreds of volunteers came to Samoa and enjoyed learning how to cook on fire, build houses out of sticks and thatched roofing, dig taro, feed, tend and eat pigs; grow bananas and generally live the Samoan way. Say, “**WWOOF!**”

Many acknowledged that I was more Samoan than the Samoans and it was a joy to see Palagi experience rural Samoa. Cross cultural challenges were huge, with guests appreciating the hard work I put in, notably in direct proportion to their humility. Those 'up themselves' who knew how things should be in a foreign country appreciated my efforts less than those who were prepared to listen and learn.



29.Engaging Emotions

The **Prince & the Pauper** is a book that developed as a story in a realtime teaching experience with the Korean mother of a homestay student whom I had recently met. She had returned home and we used phone & email.

It is an example of opportunism and the natural progression from one simple understanding to a greater life experience, and eventually into a full blown commercial product.

The story told is a simple love story, with a prince who while riding happens to see a girl in the forest that he falls in love with. The quintessential, “rich meets poor with Cupid doing his stuff”, sort of thing. It is a Christian allegory, meaning that the King is a 'type' of God, the Prince is a 'type' of Jesus and the Pauper (the poor girl) is a 'type' of us. The Prince's servant is a 'type' of the Holy Spirit – a go-between the Prince (who simply wants to love the girl) and the girl (who has a huge insecurity issues and is terrified of making the big step to accept the Prince's love).

The story however is immensely readable at a simple emotional level – intensely engaging with each chapter talking about a series of practical events that culminate in a decision point for the girl at the end of each chapter. Will she marry the Prince and live happily ever after, or not? Of course she wants to and does at times say, “Yes!” but then always changes her mind. She runs away, gets into and out of trouble and has a myriad of ups and downs as she deals with her various fears and challenges. The final chapters can be a little traumatic and have plot twists that all have a basis in typical real life emotional challenges too.

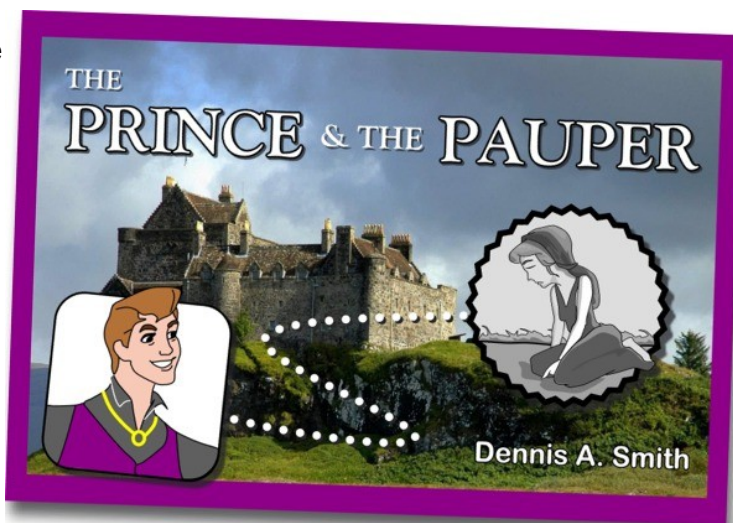
Writing to someone in particular is much easier than writing to a large audience. Even one business report written to one business colleague can flow much easier than one written to an entire company or to the Board of Directors or a committee. Whenever writing it is always helpful to select one person and write to them, at least initially, keeping that one person (or category of person) in mind while formulating your ideas.

The development of the script was completed daily by email as I wrote the story for the mother. Getting her daily feedback encouraged me to continue, even if it meant a serious commitment of time. It was an emotional roller coaster for us both during the writing.

TIP 22:



Political Correctness is a form of peer pressure that encourages people to conform to a pre-conceived value-system. People tiring from this influence love to hear that alternatives exist. They also get a real buzz from seeing them outworked.



Taking a subject that I either knew or suspected was appropriate to deal with in the recipient's life (such as a certain insecurity or fear) and then putting it into the story meant that the entire experience was real and meaningful for the recipient.

She could also write her own endings which helped with her learning English.

30. The Truth of The Path of Truth

One of my most 'influential' investigations commenced when I engaged with an online Christian truth ministry, Path of Truth.

Billed by detractors as a cult, it most certainly exhibited cult-like tendencies but things were not quite so binary as both sides claimed.

Although it had a physical farm and presence, Path of Truth was a primarily digital force and in its hey-day 'punched way above its weight'. Run by Victor Haffichuk (a leader with psychiatric issues), PoT presented itself as the only Christian ministry that dealt with the Truth, truthfully. It was also insanely aggressive towards all who dared to take it on.

Paul Cohen, was a Jew turned self-confessed apostle of Victor and brought a formidable mind to the PoT business. Until his inevitable bust-up with Victor and eventual departure, it was his vocal and vehement support that really 'made' Victor into a very successful [cult] leader.

Defectors shared the internal conflicts, politics and hidden hypocrisy and detractors universally condemned Victor's baby as a destructive dividing force.

My engagement with PoT commenced with a question relating to their statement that six million Jews had perished in the Holocaust. I knew from substantial previous research that this figure was nothing more than a marketing meme validated by varying sources at various times. I knew that Paul was Jewish but that PoT claimed to only deal with the truth. I therefore lit the match and knocked on the petrol station door – figuratively speaking.

Over a very lengthy public display of logic & fact vs petulance & arrogance, “Can you give me the validation of this six million figure?” turned into a “You're an anti-Semitic personification of evil who loves the sound of his own voice”. I'm still waiting for the validation of course, for it doesn't exist, and it's very difficult to return to speak to someone rationally when you've cast them off as a fool unworthy of speaking to – well without apologising and confessing error. They haven't and I'm sure won't ever.

There are different ways to deal with logic that reveals fault – one is to ignore it (which requires deception and is hypocritical) – another is to hold two conflicting ideas in your head simultaneously (well I am right, but they could be right too). The former can be achieved by refusing to engage . . . the latter is called cognitive dissonance.

Path of Truth exercised both.

My Tipline ran red-hot for a while as those who felt betrayed when they saw reality behind the PoT scenes approached me with their stories. It was heart-breaking to see the undue influence that one mixed up one man had on the vulnerable. I did what I could.



TIP 23:



Out-thinking a powerful foe means that we only tickle the giant once we have tied his shoelaces. This is also a principle of self-preservation. We can always use truth (i.e. exposure) as a deadly weapon but this tool can backfire if we have skeletons in our closet!

31. Possible Positivity

Negativity abounds in the world as the human spirit seeks to pull others down and most of us naturally see the world negatively. This is especially so the longer we live and the more realistic we become.

The Pumpkin People is an example of a conscious effort to show the power of positive.

The setting of this book is an island environment with an outsider who was a target for greedy and a small thinking populace. The people were known across the globe for their pumpkins and as the plot progresses, their leader had a chance to influence the community for good.

A missing visitor from a cruise ship, when eventually found, revealed things that shocked the people and brought them and their leader to their senses.

In time the people did the right thing and moved onwards and upwards living happily ever after.

It is again a Christian Allegory and the story is a 'type' of Samoa, a country of people with the arrogance of ignorance, where an outsider is not trusted nor liked. Indeed the more honourable the guest, the greater he is mistrusted and despised.

Of course, this plot is based upon my own personal experiences living in Samoa.

When dealing with what could be called the "lower of life" in my professional investigations it is extremely easy to see a dogmatic refusal to acknowledge human error, to watch crooks, crims & crazies dig their own grave and their lemming-like march to their 'death'.

It is exceedingly rare to have one of my subjects of exposure repent, confess or change their ways, thus it is normal to expect that change cannot occur when it seemingly never does. Our worldview determines our attitude and approach to this scenario but the Christian worldview is that change from choosing evil is indeed possible if we humble ourselves & that we must always give that opportunity to others to do the honourable thing.

If I am not given the opportunity to do the honourable thing when I am corrected then I feel hard done-by. Even though it rarely happens, I will always give the recipients of my wrath the opportunity to do the honourable thing.



TIP 24:



Speak it like it is because . . .

Cockroaches flee
when the light comes on
and

Sunlight is the best disinfectant!

I am though very realistic and am always prepared for the worst. In some cases this may be the activation of a dead-man switch, in others it is a technical backing up, defamation protection activities and my will is always up to date.

The Pumpkin People is an attempt to show what can happen when one leader (contrary to the norm) does the honourable thing.

32. Evolution vs Godly Logic

One of the first investigations I undertook dived into the concept of evolution. My findings that I had been hoodwinked from childhood shocked me to the core. Undertaken long before the Intelligent Design movement developed this was 'fringe theory' at the time – contempt poured on those written off by the mainstream as “just foolish, religious nutters”.

Evolutionary thought demonstrates the use of logical fallacies galore and as *a priori assumptions*, *ad hominem* and circular logic top the list of the techniques used by the deluded to try to convince the gullible of their belief. Evolutionary thought is essentially a violently defended religious fervour masking its claim to be godlike (i.e. claiming an exclusive lien on the truth), by denying a creator.

Design requires a designer. Increasing evidence of design exists. It is not possible to prove a negative without full knowledge thus the existence of a designer therefore is simply logical. Most call this designer God, whether this be the Hindu, Christian or Islamic versions is a secondary issue. Claiming that scientific processes do not deal with the spiritual nor critical questions such as morality or First Cause doesn't solve the problem. It simply shows that an *a priori* assumption exists and elevates scientific endeavours to that equal to God.

Deliberate deception and shallow thought also exist as the validations for a bankrupt, untestable concept change over the years, yet the mantra remains. This is akin to cult-like, religious belief & indicates a hidden agenda, proving that facts are being misrepresented.

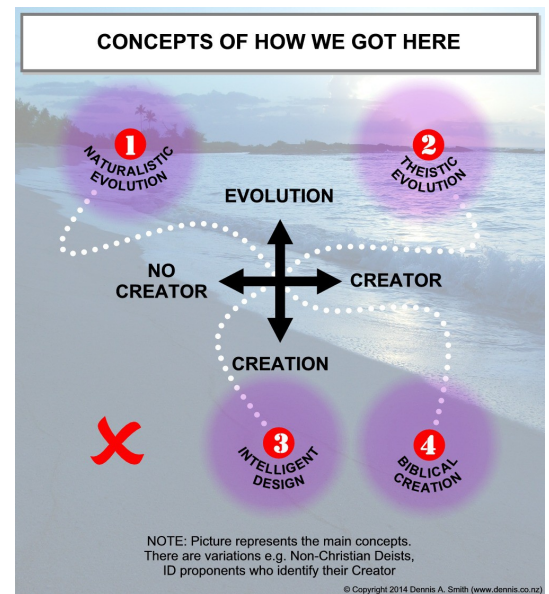
True scientific endeavour seeks to interpret real evidence, testing hypotheses with rational analysis of observable results. The Grand Canyon stratification for example, looks to me more like alluvial deposits laid down by a large flood, gouged out by substantial water flows as it flowed off the surrounding plains. When one tree-stump is found passing through more than one layer of material supposedly laid down over millennia, such exceptions would normally require modification of our long-age theories, normally, logically.

I love how simple concepts (such as Michael Behe's 'Irreducible Complexity' and Werner Gitt's 'Information Theory') also prove the impossibility of our existence without some form of intelligent designer. Both pre-dated the ID movement. Michael showed by describing the five components of a simple mouse-trap - all required simultaneously to function.

Werner also showed how information (the core building block of life) required five components simultaneously to exist: a sender & a receiver; a method to send and to receive; as well as a language. Thus a designer . . . can anyone disagree?

Both concepts prove emphatically that gradual development of what is mockingly referred to as, “From goo to you, via the zoo” is utterly, simply impossible. An inconceivably long distance of time cannot alter these fundamentals. Note carefully that the ID movement need not even mention the name of Christ, Mohammed or others. It just observes & thinks.

As far as my research has found, the evolutionary debate is not a debate of science vs religion – it is rather more an exercise in studying sound logic – an investigator's expertise.



33. Sharing by Teaching

A lovely pleasure that any thinker, parent or mature person has is gaining the opportunity to share their knowledge, or wisdom with others.

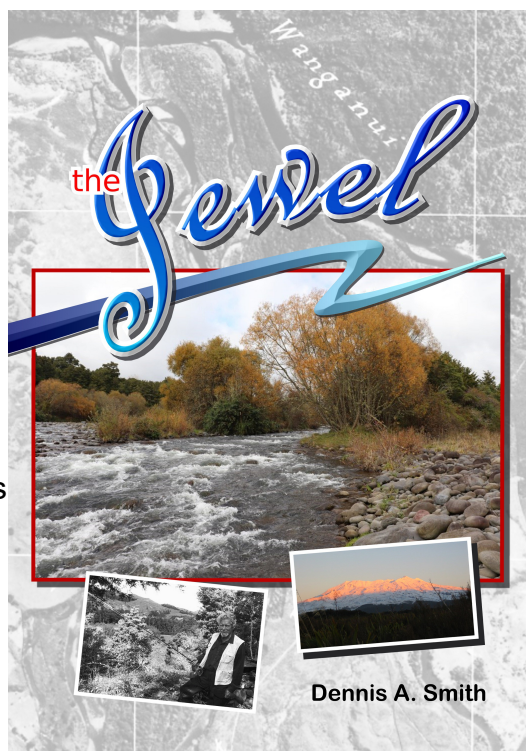
Assuming that we care, we all want to teach our children what we have learned in life, so that we can give them the best start we can.

As we mature, age and retire (or make moves in this direction) we can also seek to share our expertise.

"The Jewel" is an example of this when I took my capacity to design, write, photograph and publish material into a private classroom environment.

This 20 page book resulted from my efforts to put this all together for students wishing to learn the trade for themselves.

- * The book cover show here, for example, can be broken down for the observant:
- * The background is a map of the Wanganui river area – greyed and faded out;
- * The "Jewel" is a fancy script font, curved, blue with white border, 3D and drop shadow;
- * The "the" is red, lower-case with white border superimposed over the primary title word;
- * There is no subtitle and the primary photo has an uncluttered look with an 'Autumn' river;
- * An angled Mt Ruapehu photo has a sharp line of the sunset, white border & drop-shadow;
- * An older-looking black & white photo of local legend Peter McIntyre has no drop shadow;
- * The Author's name is a plain black font, Arial Rounded, bottom right as all my books do.



Most would never look at a book cover in this much detail but the individual design components are important to create an overall impression for a cover that must tell a story. Indeed you SHOULD be able to tell a book from its cover. Photographs, old and new; beauty, nature and history, all relating to the Wanganui region combined with thoughtful layout should all flow from this cover throughout the book, which indeed does occur.

This book resulted from a single trip to a property located in the central North Island town of Kakahi and a three hour photography session of a property for sale on the banks of the upper reaches of the Wanganui river. I used it as a template so that students could use it

to develop their own products, photographing and then writing a resource on a topic of their choosing.

TIP 25:



Google's image finder can locate images by comparison & this will often reveal the original source. File names often contain the time & date taken and a page source or JPG meta data can reveal the photographer or other sensitive info.

I have found that over the years all my skills have developed but keeping my attitude right is key - I have fun doing everything. It is when I teach others and help others to get their story out though, that I gain the most satisfaction. What's your story?

34. Dennis A. Smith Headshot

As a web designer, one of the hardest things to get from a client is information – be it statistics, contact information of people to speak to, text for a website, or good photos.

The headshot shown to the right here was taken in 2009 at Lake Pupuke, Milford. I know this detail years later because how I present myself to the world is important to me.

Let's go through the details then of this shot in a way that you too can analyse your own resources such as your own marketing materials or perhaps your investigative target.

First, everyone will have some idea of how they want to be perceived. Don't make the assumption that just because you are camera shy that your clients respect your problem.

Secondly, any photo is better than no photo! Websites without photos of the people show the public that you simply do not care. In general older people have less of a digital footprint and are more conservative with their private information but you would be surprised at what is available online when you look for it.

This photo is a casual look – my personal preference in lifestyle, but the look that I prefer for online photos is always a more formal one, mostly with a tie and business shirt, sometimes with a suit. This is important to me and I try to avoid people taking photos without my input or at a minimum getting a copy for myself.

This photo was taken in a strong overcast light but it was too much because I am squinting. This means that my eyes have strong crows-feet to the sides which are distracting. My hair and eyebrows are fine as is my neutral chin and neck position. A little slant to the right side of the photo brings a little interest but is probably unnecessary.

The background lake, flax and rocks are fine because they are out of focus, are relatively level, avoid the sky and do not distract too much. The back shirt is a casual shirt but because it is black this is not too noticeable and for me, is fine.

My smile looks more like a grimace but it is better than nothing because my mouth is open and shows just enough teeth. No teeth showing is no good. Many teeth comes across as too unreal.

This was clearly not a professionally taken photograph but it is an acceptable image to use in many situations.

An important skill in investigative work is to consider details in photographs. Consciously look at all aspects of a photograph, not only the subject, but also the background.



TIP 26:



Email is a fantastic tool to encourage writers to write. Slipping an email to someone you trust is a natural way to start to tell a story. Just write & click SEND. It doesn't have to be perfect, nor any particular length nor formatted. Just think, write & send. Others can 'tidy it up'!

35. Showing Sensitivity

Everybody has a story to tell – everybody. Some stories are easy to share; easy to listen to and can be widely interesting. Others can be sad as people talk about losses, grief and so on.

Some though are Simply Outrageous.

Righteous anger is an incredibly powerful force in the world because it is intensely motivating. When we see or hear about injustice many of us will get off our chuffs and do something about it – shake our fists at the TV, write letters to our MP, speak to others, post a Facebook link, or get active with something!

This man's story appears to be a mix of bureaucracy challenges, ego issues within the Mental Health system, a medical issue with bi-polar, a criminal matter gone wrong and a rebellious spirit that hasn't yet learned that within the medical establishment you have no choice but to comply!

The book *Simply Outrageous* is the story of one man's fight against the Hamilton Mental Health services in 2018. The picture of a naked man forced into a small box inside a brick wall tells much, and then add in a suicide attempt and people who simply do not give a shit - to be direct. Luckily one caregiver cared enough to come to his aid but that he was even in this position is a disgrace. A cover-up and lies from those directly and indirectly responsible – of course.

It is a difficult story to tell for a range of reasons – first it is removed from time and distance. It happened a while ago, and in Hamilton. I live in Taumarunui. That's not terminal for a guy who does most things remotely but it does make it a little harder.

Secondly it relates to Mental Health. I'm not a medical person and while I can handle Autism and Asperger's because I have had a lot of experience with these people, Bi-Polar and depression is not my scene. That makes it a tricky subject for me to share with others except in an intellectual or remote way. This story needs a close intimate empathetic manner that I know that I cannot provide.

Thirdly my client is up and down. I can be confident of knowing my own role in the research and writing exercise. I can be confident of determining reality from both a medical perspective and factual perspective, even from a spiritual perspective, but with a client a patient, subject to the ups and downs of bi-polar in a fairly intense situation, I doubt that I will be able to get the job done on-time and on-budget and to produce professionally. Put into a nutshell, I can do my part but I cannot be sure that he will be able to do his.

I withdrew from the project and sadly, recommended that the victim just suck it all up and get on with life. The point here is that while I can show sensitivity to a victim, being sensitive to my own situation sometimes means backing off, minding my own business and going away. At times, life hurts.



36.NZ Initiatives

I started website development in 1997 as an interest and established Go Kiwi Internet as my commercial web development company in 1999. Over the next decade I built it into New Zealand's most prolific web development company, personally developing a stunning more than 550 commercial and charity websites.



In 2006 I 'retired' & established the Web Developers Association of New Zealand. They said that it could never be done, but I pushed on through the pain of fighting with the colours of the logo; fighting with the



purists in the industry that took issue with our 'technical incompetence' & eventually ended up with some 300 members that mostly all loved our brand, teaching, training, speakers & conferences.



The book Internet UNMASKED!! and taking this knowledge nationwide began an enjoyable career.

I established my company Gold Tick Services to provide a system of industry standards, sadly something cut short and never achieved due to my emigration to Samoa in 2010.



My mother was a commercial artist, and my father a watchmaker. Observe therefore the balance and detail in all my designs.

A naturally insecure man, with chronic self-esteem issues, I have become increasingly aware of the importance of backing ourselves. "Go for it!!" indeed.

TIP 27:



The concept of personal accountability requires commensurate personal responsibility. Our Pastor, Priest, Parents, Children, Mentor, Friends, Politicians, Bankers or Professional Advisors will not be with us when we face up to St Peter.

37. He's Good For It – Not!

I received a call from Australia. "My name is John. I'm coming to New Zealand and would like to meet you. I've been reading your blog and love your work! I've funded the Te Aliki family in their fight for justice for the last few years and I wish to get your advice!"

"Sure!" I said

So we met.

I met with this millionaire businessman from Sydney in an Auckland hotel with his Samoan family representative. He p*ssed me off by saying nice things about me non-stop for an hour using every superlative he could think of until I told him that I was not the Messiah, that he was a fool to look up to me like that and to shut-up – yes I literally said this, directly, just like that.

So he did, fortunately.

I then went through their case and got to understand the seriousness of the matters at stake. Land theft in Samoa, as in many indigenous cultures abounds. The government changes the rules and innocents lose their family jewels sort of thing. Nudge nudge wink wink and the elite feather their own nests – as the ruling class of Animal Farm put it, "We're all equal. It's just that we're a little more equal than you!" And of course their legal case had gone around and around in circles and was about to go down the gurgler.

There are several take-homes from what can only be classified as an utterly disastrous engagement for me over quite some months in the Te Aliki case. The first is that millionaires sometimes don't pay their bills. Yes, I know, I know, I should have been more careful and less trusting but I was put crook by more than one factor.

I was paid up front for the first tranche; and the second. The third one, the big one, never arrived. Bugger!

"He's good for it!" from the family meant nothing at the end of the day. "You trusted a Samoan – after you lived in Samoa all that time?" I hear you mock. Yes I did.

The second is that sometimes the people that get you into the poo cannot get you out of it. This businessman and the family that he supported trusted the same lawyers that lost the first case to win the appeal. Perhaps that might not work? A few questions from me and I found that they had sidelined some people that I knew to be top legal brains in preference for those, that, well . . . had already lost for their clients!

Thirdly, sometimes the legal system is not the way to go and the cards are stacked against you when taking on corrupt people in positions of power, especially when they have a vested interest in an adverse outcome. I advised them that they would lose their appeal; and that their legal advisors had not done the basics. They simply did not understand the politics that they were getting into and the matter was a political one, not a legal one.

I received a phone call later on from a very distraught woman who had watched millions of dollars of other people's money wasted as Samoan politics legitimised a land theft from her husband's family in 1959. "You were right!" she said. "We lost, we should have listened to you." Sadly there was nothing I could or did say and I doubt I'll ever see my money.
#lostforwards



38. Writing the Wrong

In Samoa I found myself standing up for people around me, those whom we call over there, “the little people”.

I conceptualised the idea of a legal support service for those without a voice facing injustice. Along with a friend, I scouted out a location on the road to the courthouse and developed a business plan which involved a service to take on the high and mighty by getting their story out.

On my return to New Zealand, I took this concept to market with the idea of running a mobile recording studio. This resource is another concept in a stable of services just helping people.

In my experience most people are neutral in their ethics – they will look after themselves at others' expense when opportunity presents itself (as long as there is little shame or cost associated) but they are neither ratbags, nor goody-goody-two-shoes either. There are however a few who are ahead of (or behind) the curve who operate at the extremes.

On the negative side, these are the crook, crims & crazies who lack a moral conscience (or whose conscience is seared) and on the positive side there are the ones who will never buy a Lotto ticket because it is morally wrong and who will be the one to pick up a hitchhiker, or go out of their way to help a little old lady cross the road in rush hour.

I'm a royal PITA to live with because I'm in the latter category. Being at the upper end of the curve when it comes to shooting straight, has a huge attraction to those in need, but to be avoided when you have something to hide!

Writing the Wrong has a multifaceted approach to helping others. Private Investigative endeavours are only one part of the offering, but is the most interesting. Our sales process includes an aspect that for most people, especially when they are under stress, is exceedingly hard to define. We have to know what a client wants.

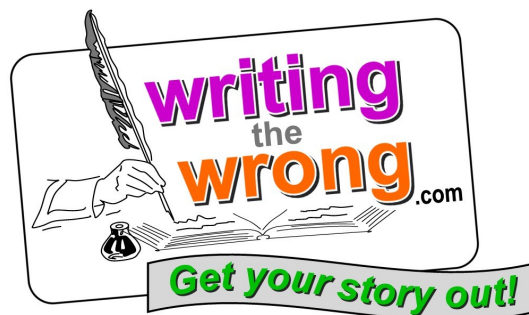
Do they really want to know the truth? Most think that they do, but most actually don't. What do they want to achieve from the investigative, writing or marketing work? Imagine!

Think for example of a woman who suspects that her husband is not being faithful. She knows this of course deep down because of the extra attention she receives when his guilt gets the better of him, but does she really want to lose the breadwinner, father of say, four children and go through the pain of trying to do it all again with her new lover?

Or a businessman who has the potential to bankrupt his opposition and put him in jail over a little indiscretion, when he knows that he too has the potential to 'go down'. Now what?

An opponent with psychiatric issues spun a story that I was only attacking him because I was his 'jilted lover'. Despite advice that I should defend false claims of homosexuality immediately, I waited. The damage to me was small in comparison to my resulting achievement – two weeks later his international con was over - and for good!

From another, “He loves the sound of his own voice!” I agreed - adversary neutralised!

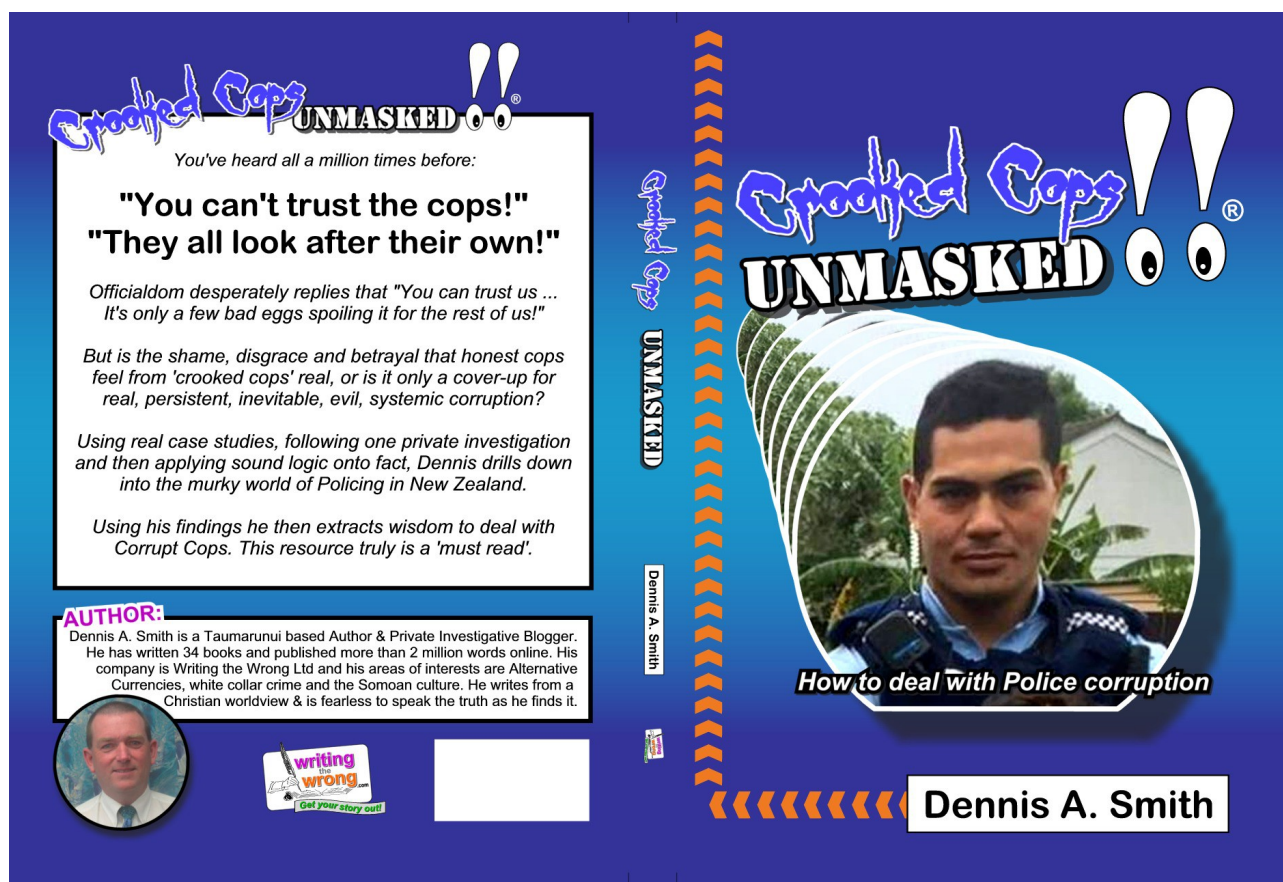


TIP 28:



Photography, graphics, design, writing, editing, layout, printing, publication & marketing are all required to put a book together. Web skills too can help get your story out but you don't have to be a genius in all this to do it. Lean on children, neighbours, friends & professionals.

39. Taking it to Them



This book is a concept developed for a New Plymouth man arrested and charged with a crime he never committed.

The photo is of a Corrupt Cop, a Samoan policeman who sold the database of gun owners to gangs. Depending on the way the case unfolds the book may or may not be produced. Replacing the photo on the front cover however with a photo of the policewoman who encouraged members of the public to lie in their affidavits could have a massive impact on how the cards are stacked in this game of truth.

Police generally recommend that their own investigation team are contacted when things go wrong. Publishing the investigation as it happens in realtime and/or publishing a book about it are alternative options.

I've said before that the cockroaches flee when the light comes on. Most crooks too seek to operate in the dark.

TIP 29:



Are you ready for a war?

We have to check whether a crook can invert our attack and return fire with fire.

Would it be OK with you if your real motives were exposed?

Vigilante justice can be dangerous and is looked down upon in a condescending manner by authorities with an interest in protecting their patch.

Getting your story out there however is a perfectly valid alternative strategy, especially when justice through the authorities is neither forthcoming, nor timely.

40.Det. Inspector Bruce Hutton

Detective Chief Inspector Hutton was found to have planted evidence that convicted an innocent man, Arthur Allan Thomas in the murder of Jeannette & Harvey Crewe.

In the 1970s as interest in the Crewe murders came to fever pitch, many weighed in on the corruption revealed within the NZ Police force.

The impact upon the NZ society of these revelations has lasted to this day with our trusting innocence destroyed spectacularly and permanently.

Hutton was a tough guy who went to his grave saying that he had gotten his man. He was wrong and he was what can be rightly called a “crooked cop”.

Commentators have opined that it was the culture at the time, or that the political necessity for a conviction overruled old-school ethics. The NZ Police certainly did have a few high-profile unsolved murders on their hands back then, but one has to view this corruption in context to understand why it happened and how things really worked.

My research into the Crewe murders took a different path from the usual journalist one. I ignored all Police comments and conclusions because I knew that some in the Police (the Crewe investigation was under Hutton's leadership) had shown signs that they knew from the earliest hours the significance of these murders.

Jeannette's mother Maisey had been a 'rural banker' in the Pukekawa region. Farmers indebted to Maisey were being asked to pay up to her murdered daughter Jeannette as she and her husband Harvey planned to move out of the district. Proof that some in the Police wanted some things hidden comes by way of the missing cow cover, photographed on the Monday (22nd June 1970) yet missing in the aerial photos taken the next day on the Tuesday afternoon.

While the focus of media attention was on the hunt for bodies, Len Demler's unusual conduct, identifying the 'mystery' woman who fed the baby and the arrest, trials and pardon of Arthur Allan Thomas, scant attention fell on those who benefited from the murders – Len Demler, those who owed money to Maisey and the fact that missing evidence within the first few hours points to inside information within the Police & much deeper corruption than is widely perceived.

A senior community leader charged with investigating a Police investigation gone very wrong found that Detective Chief Inspector Hutton's money driven conduct in planting the .22 shell (Exhibit No.350) that convicted an innocent man and put him behind bars for nine years was “an unspeakable outrage”.

I concur.



TIP 30:



Money, sex and power
are three powerful forces
for evil.

41. Conceptually Challenging

In 2009 I visited third world, island nation, Samoa. Following a unique set of circumstances in 2010 I emigrated to Samoa and commenced a private study into the nature of money.

My book 'Mistakes of the Monetary Reformers' summarised the blogging of my findings by collating these blog posts. The title takes a negative approach, featuring the word and concept 'mistakes' but the book also contains a positive approach – providing a solution to each of these problems.

Researching the true nature of money was not an easy thing to do. Coming up with an alternative solution to the problems that I identified was even harder. Most difficult however was to communicate this to others. Having an epiphany yourself is one thing; helping others too to experience is another!

They say that, “For every cloud there is a silver lining”, but while this glib statement is true, I needed to work through each issue logically so that others could learn from my work. I did so in blog form and then produced the book to stitch it all together. I

conceptualised the phrase that, “Understanding money is the second most important subject in life!” Does that also raise the question of what is the first?

While others had produced alternative currencies and promoted various concepts to tackle one aspect of monetary troubles, nobody that I saw had ever drilled down to the bottom and tackled them all. One cannot truly understand a topic until we do that. If I claim to understand a subject, then surely I must then provide a solution to the fundamental issue?

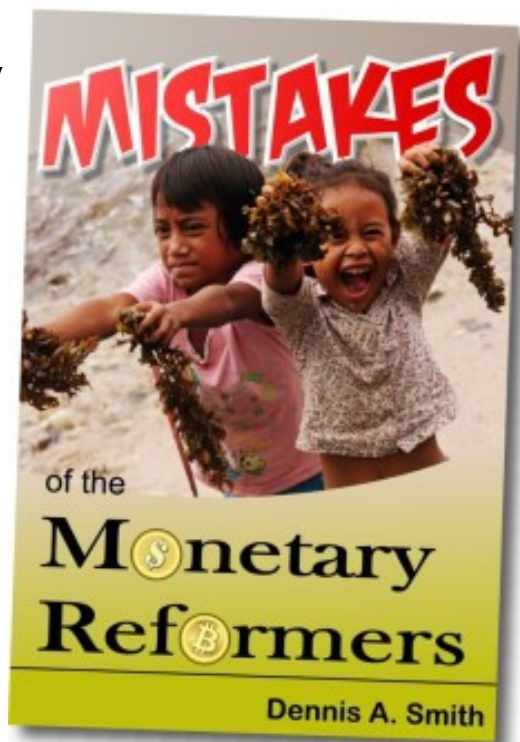
The charging of interest (usury) is prohibited in the three monotheistic religious texts thus any solution should be interest free – thus Mutual Credit. Private ownership of a currency reduced trust & increased risks of greed – thus Open Source.

Technology such as crypto-currencies were being used to remove trust whereas people actually base their assessment of a trust on human relationships. Trust must be enabled.

Money is wrongly viewed as a commodity, such as oil, precious metals, a manufacturing operation, even goodwill, yet it is at its core a measurement of value, totally unable to be

regulated, controlled or issued – either in quantity or in value. Tracking from where that deception initially comes from is shocking.

Opening our understanding of the true nature of money; taking the concepts back to the beginning and building it piece by piece brings a freedom to benefit society & self without limit! This book was my effort to share challenging concepts.



TIP 31:



Understanding the true nature of money is the second most important subject in life! Contrary to the common narrative, when properly understood, true money can never be managed, issued nor limited. Hint: Nature did not fail when a financial adversity occurred.

42. Buying A Fight

Most people, including me, want a peaceful life – one preferably devoid of fighting.

'Bad guys' however, are wired differently and usually have no compunction about throwing their weight around. Aggression is a tool that works very well for crooks and bullies.

I found myself toughening up over the years as I realised more and more that the little guys were getting trashed because of their aversion to conflict.

The typical response I saw was that the bully pushed & pushed & pushed until the little guy finally decided to stand up and push back. This seemed to give the aggressor a huge advantage - meaning that the defender started a war on the back foot. Not good!

Deliberately buying a fight however, is a technique I have developed as my investigative skills have matured. In the early days of my career I attempted to avoid conflict trying to seek cooperation from an aggressor in order to make the world a better place.

This approach is totally unrealistic however, because I cannot think of one case where the bad guy has ever changed his/her ways and gone on to do the honourable thing. Yes, I always give them opportunity to do this but I am always planning to 'go in for the kill' from the outset, preparing for war, because most crooks double down when confronted.

When I moved to Samoa I was a pacifist. The school of hard knocks taught me that being a Palagi, I was a natural target, and that when dealing with essentially physical people, I had to be prepared to kill to defend myself - literally. People who 'live by the sword' know instinctively when you are serious or when you are playing games.

We lived in open fale, essentially roofs on sticks so that the cooling breeze could waft through as we slept. Unfortunately having Palagi girls sleep in buildings without walls in a sea of young randy Samoan men made for a security challenge in our backpackers. One particularly troublesome lad had been returned to Samoa after a prison sentence in NZ for rape. He returned after being evicted but when told to his face five times (no less!) that he would be dead if he was ever seen there again, he finally learned to respect our wishes.

Conflict in a business or personal situation too is solved to the favour of the one who shows strength. That's just the way things work. It's got nothing to do with fairness, truth or justice. Good negotiators will engineer an engagement so that they have the important facts, then act in their clients' best interest, be it a commercial negotiation, criminal investigation or family dispute . . . the one who has the greatest resolve; who not only has the critical information but uses it effectively.

Many clients know where the truth lies; they even know where justice exists . . . the question however is whether they have the resolve and whether they're prepared to pay the price to obtain it.



CONFLICT

Stories & Advice
from the Field

Dennis A. Smith

TIP 32:



Never enter into a conflict that
you do not know
that you will win.

43. Unforgettable People

John Ingley

I have never met the late Te Kuiti author and investigator John Ingley but I feel that I know him, and very well. This image has been taken from the one recorded interview that I have on file.

John's story is that of an uneducated man of the bush – you can see his unkempt appearance in the photo – who spent his life asking questions and in the end made his mark on history.

In the winter of 1976 John met a woman seeking company in Whangarei. She called herself Leslee & after a few years of deception she eventually broke down and confessed that she was actually “Pam” - the woman who fed the Crewe baby.

John's story is written in the book I Fed the Baby, a testament to a life of asking questions. His questions were basic ones that helped him to see reality – who was the woman whom he knew as Leslee Sinton? Who was the woman who fed the Crewe baby?



Leslee Sinton

How people can live a lie for 50 years beats me but they certainly can as Leslee has shown.

Catholic belief systems, where accountability to a Priest trumps accountability to our fellow man helps in this situation. Leslee is the woman whose identity was used by Pam [above].



Caroline MacDonald

Daughter of the founder of the fraudulent Australian BBX barter exchange,

Caroline muscled out her older sister, and worked with her mother to cover up millions of dollars in fraudulent business dealings, and who was at the helm when my blogging dealt very serious blows to the international operations.

With an extraordinary father, family dysfunction galore on his passing, Caroline entered a 'panic mode' as her business self-destructed over weeks, necessitating emergency measures to downsize, sell off, sell up and make very serious efforts to grab for cash when the balloon went up.



44. Creating Value From Others

You do not need to be 100% original with everything you do. It is perfectly possible to create value for others from others' work or ideas, after all that is what a builder or a baker does – taking materials and ingredients then using tools intelligently to build a house or bake a cake.

In fact some of the most successful ideas in business have come from the combination of other ideas in unique ways. MLM or viral marketing, or try-before you buy or interest free concepts for example can be applied into any industry. Likewise the 'Just In Time' manufacturing or Henry Ford's production systems.

Combining different existing ideas with new technology has spawned the likes of Google and Facebook for example – old concepts but with new technology.

Aside from plagiarism which is 'frowned upon' (in an academic and legal sense) the taking of others' ideas and developing them further is common practice. The wheel for example when used once, can then be used for other purposes.

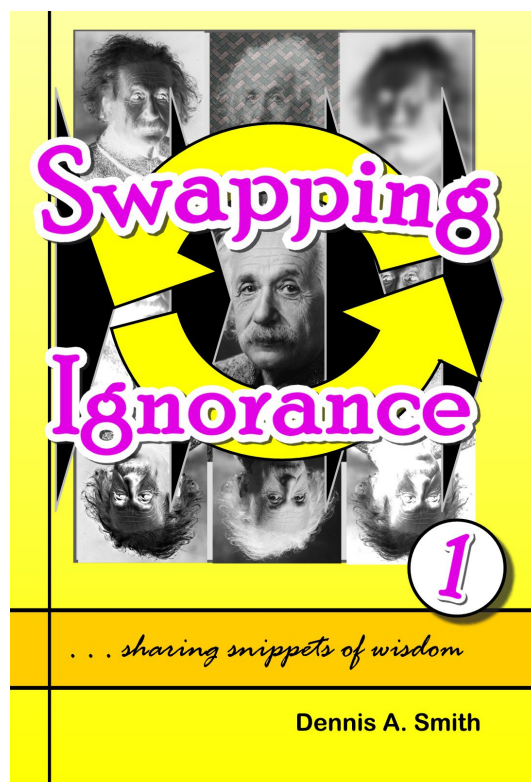
Both ethics and the law require that we add value to the original idea for it to become a new work, thus a commercially viable business.

Swapping Ignorance is a book I wrote sharing the wisdom of others. It contains dozens of quotes that I collected over a few years as I browsed the Internet, and read emails, posts and books that interested me.

While these quotes represent value to the reader in themselves, I have attempted to introduce higher value by passing commentary on each quote. This technique helps others by getting them to think about things they had previously seen, but in greater depth or from another angle. It is akin to someone showing you, say, a photograph of two people that you know. You identify with the familiar person. But what about the fishbowl in the background, or the date of a newspaper lying on a table that doesn't fit with the caption? Now thanks to another's words you can see things in a different light.

This was recently the case in an inquiry into Operation Burnham, a wartime event in which two NZ investigative authors claimed misconduct by the NZ forces.

Looking at the events by reading one author gave us one perspective. Analysis of the claims in the book however, gave us another.



TIP 33:



That a man [e.g. OJ Simpson] was at the scene of a murder & who is distrusted by many because of a 'bad attitude' doesn't make him a murderer to a jury assessing facts. Likewise with any investigative endeavour - assessing facts with sound logic is required to divine truth.

45. The Power of Story

Sharing challenging concepts is in itself a challenge. A simple matter of theft, or a deception or a matter of fraud, while perhaps appearing complex from the outside usually comes down to something very simple.

The challenge for people wanting to get their story out is to simplify it sufficiently that the reader can grasp what it's all about.

Continuing on in the Swapping Ignorance series, I collated some Short Stories that I had written as Christian allegories. The Christian message is essentially so simple that a child can understand it, but life throws incredible challenges our way and this messes with our minds.

That there is a Creator and that we must be accountable to Him, is self evident to a child. "What's the problem with that?" a child will ask. "If we come from a mother and father who created us and it is them who set the rules by which we must live, then surely this is just the reality?"

But, then the concept of evolution gains credibility; the teaching of the church doesn't measure up to the rhetoric so we lose faith in them; and we find that recognising that the challenges of life and death in a less than perfect world makes things a little complicated!

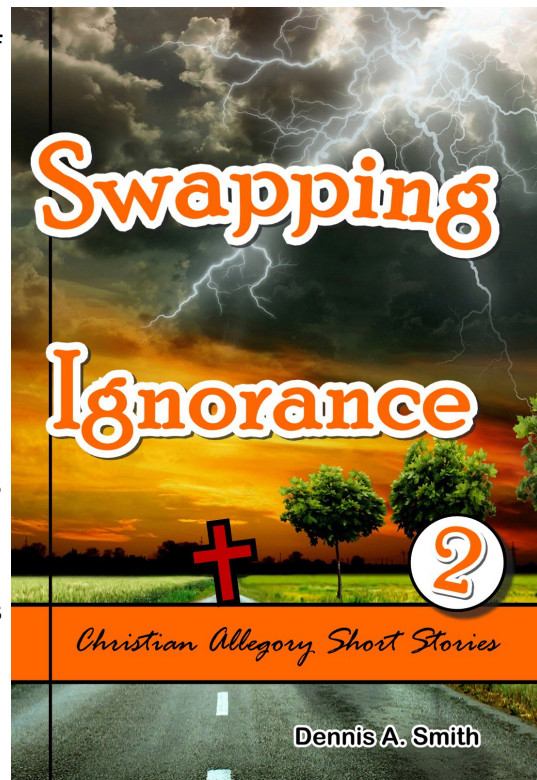
Speaking of one subject at a time in a story is a simple story-telling technique – one that is hugely effective when things are complex, and especially when deeper thought is required.

Because most people seek self-gratification in all they do, the application of someone else's experiences into our own life is one of those challenges. Hence our workbook. One old man can tell the world till the cows come home how he became a success story; he can feel great about himself as much as he likes; but how would that all connect with a young woman struggling to deal with loneliness or violence or just feed her children?

Stories (and in this case Christian Allegories) can help bridge that gap so that the sharing and imparting of sound principles can transcend culture, gender, ages, time and life circumstances. When the Little Red Penguin wins against all odds against his predators for example, and when he realises how to use his uniqueness to counter evil, we can all connect with the moral of the story and apply that lesson in our own way. We think about & later remember the way that funny little odd fictitious red penguin converted his success

into power and influence so that all those around him benefited.

When we watched the various villagers deal with the wall in a ludicrous manner – denying it, ignoring it, benefiting from it and suffering as a result of it, we note this & can be a little wiser when dealing with truth ourselves.



TIP 34:



Be careful out there people! Always deal only with the truth; the whole truth and nothing but the truth! Be smart. Your friends can easily deceive you at the drop of a hat, especially in court and especially to save themselves.

46.DNC

Taking on power and authority is not for the faint-hearted and it does not always result in a win, nor justice.

I'm a proud man and I hate losing, but while I didn't lose in a scrap with the Domain Name Commission, I certainly didn't win an argument against authority.

I didn't lose in court. In fact I even didn't withdraw a court case – I simply blogged my thoughts, raised the question of a civil court case, then I approached the authority, got their legal opinion (which of course was that I would lose) then I let the matter ride.

IMHO the crooks won, but them's the breaks. It is an interesting case study with lessons for social justice warriors in business. Luckily my focus as a Private Investigator has been more on thinking and speaking rather than attempting to be an activist.

From the 1990s, New Zealand established the bulk of its Internet naming with a tiered use

of Domain Names. In this industry we call what we used “third level domain naming”. In the case of a domain name say, www.dennis.co.nz, working from the right to the left as the Internet technology works, the .nz is the top level domain, the .co is the second level, and dennis is the third level domain. This differs from some other namespaces which are simpler, like the USA (.com) and Samoa (.ws) that skips the second level (.co, .org or .net).

The organisation that manages the .nz namespace indicated that they wished to include second level domain registrations. They undertook their advertised process for change and duly introduced this new domain name service, but it introduced a conflict that for many people remains to this day. People with say a .co.nz name fight against say, a .org.nz name for the right to register the new .nz name. IMHO this should never have occurred and there were other options available to them.

I saw management bias towards a pre-determined position, greed in that their income would increase substantially as a result of the changes and more.

Because of the logistics of dealing with a large number of low value items however they 'got away with it'.

I feel like shouting “I told you so!” whenever I see problems arise but you win some, & lose some.



TIP 35:



It is unusual for someone to just 'sit down and write a book'. None of us have the capacity to concentrate or focus for the length of time required to prepare a resource that big. So: Q.How do you eat an elephant? A.One bite at a time! Break your big task down into bite-sized pieces.

47. Backing Yourself

I've mentioned previously that a writer needs to know a subject in order to be able to share it believably, but developing our own story can be one of the hardest things to do because we know it so well. This knowledge can bring a blindness.

The objectivity that brings us credibility is hard to balance with the passion that engages a reader.

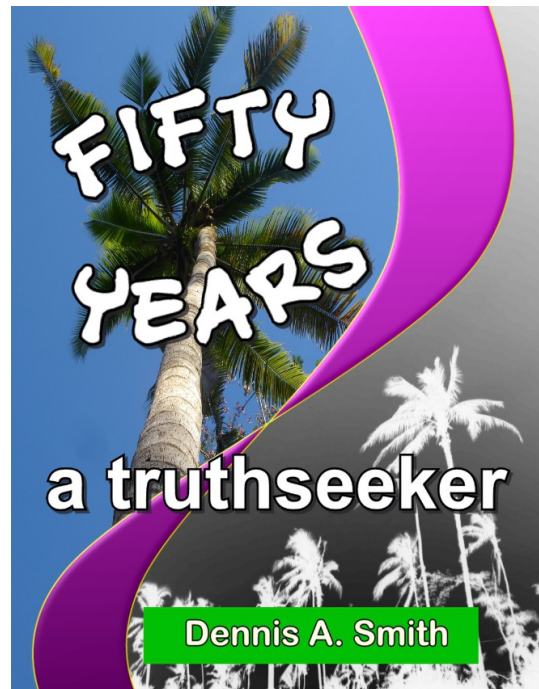
Writing my own personal story in book form, '50 Years a Truthseeker' was no exception. To encapsulate half a century of learning into a mere "few hundred pages" was a real mission – a project actually still under way after five years. I would start, then stop; write and rewrite; think hard & scribble down notes in the middle of the night.

Just as there are different techniques we use to investigate a subject matter, so too are there different techniques to record our findings. I often use a series of blog posts to write about larger topics. With a post of 1,000 – 3,000 words I can deal with a topic in sufficient detail that I can then string a dozen of these into a coherent series. That then can become the core text of a book. It also helps me to get my thinking sorted and sharing it in one audience can often prepare for another similar but different one.

Let me share with you how I achieved this with the first part of this biography. Asking a key question of a friend one day ("From where do you get your values?"), I developed the following blog posts. A series of a dozen posts then developed as I wished to enhance and develop a progression of thought. Writing to this one person (even if she never read them all) helped me to get my thoughts together. All the subjects I had blogged or written about previously but stringing them together helped me produce the first section of the book.

1. From Whence Your Values?
2. Which Kind of Money?
3. The Big Question
4. From Whence the Power?
5. Walk It, Speaking Personally
6. Faith Based on Reality
7. The Democracy Deception
8. Usury, Tool of Enslavement
9. Evolution, Intellectually Bankrupt
10. Escape the Church

These blog posts described my chosen subjects in an order of priority in importance & linked them all together coherently. In the second section I will provide a balance and a counterpoint by sharing my learning experiences in chronological order. The intellectual then the experiential.



48. Whale Oil

Cameron Slater is an astute New Zealand political commentator, son of a long-term National Party big-wig. Over the years he has struggled with defining his own identity; he has fought depression; tackling many a personal ghost and he has done it in the public gaze. In recent years he has lost some high profile defamation cases, suffered a stroke and has been marginalised by most.

His blogging career started as a form of therapy and his unique mix of fearlessness, passion, strong sense of justice, conservative values and creativity came to the fore as he developed what at one stage was New Zealand's top website, Whale Oil. Say the full website name in a certain UK accent and you'll see how his mind works! "Well I'll be f*cked!"



It is an understatement to say that many journalists love to hate on him. He is utterly despised by many who consider him nasty, vicious and to be avoided at all costs. Engaging with Cam can indeed be a two edged sword. Those who have done so have largely all got their hands burned as a result. Fortunately I've avoided that fate, to date.

Cameron's political take is second to none. In his heyday he capitalised on this with TV appearances, a surge in his website growth and a strong reputation for having a strong political nouse. His fall from grace and subsequent bankruptcy however involved defamation litigation from several of his victims – those who had conspired to buy his marketing services and those who were less than forthright in their tip offs.

Court appearances, legal documents, judicial observations and the exercise of cautionary analysis provide important lessons for observers.

1. Mental or psychiatric issues are not an excuse for the consequences of our conduct. Issues relating to Cam's depression for example could not avoid the consequences of breaking the law. When he revealed the names of people with name suppression (a popular move at the time), he still got charged and fined.
2. His commercial and political success did not stop the courts finding that he had committed defamation on occasion. Yes, he was also exonerated of some claims against him but he did go bankrupt over the events in question, and it would be a brave man who didn't put his stroke down to a direct result of the stress.
3. Fearlessness is a powerful attribute to have, especially when undertaking an investigation into or expose of those who deceive. It must be balanced though with realism and a willingness to pay the price.
4. I noted in a courtroom in realtime when a Christian lawyer, a long-time friend of his (I knew her too) destroyed the friendship - a nasty cocktail of gender, faith, & occupation. Cam's blogging career has provided me with valuable lessons. He's a brave, flawed man, IMHO wrongly written off, for the fighting spirit within a true visionary usually returns.

TIP 36:



Backing yourself can come at a cost if your adversaries find error in your words or conduct. Like rust, evil never sleeps, thus it is incumbent upon those who 'go public' to get their facts right and to maintain integrity at ALL times.

49. Creating Commercial Value

"Escape" is the theme of two books I wrote while in Samoa. Both "Escape the Church" and "Escape the Police State" provided commercial opportunity from a rural location that had no obvious income streams.

The point of this example is that anybody, anywhere in the world, with any level of experience can create value for others - if they put their mind to it. I'll put this out there a second time . . .

Anyone, anywhere, with any experience who desires to create value for others can monetise that value when they help, teach, give to or enable those in need.

These two products resulted from simply sharing my personal life experiences and they became income streams as a direct result of writing a book and including a workbook.

I developed relationships with those who sought to escape from two common problems – the stranglehold of the traditional organised Christian church, as well as what was perceived as a police state.

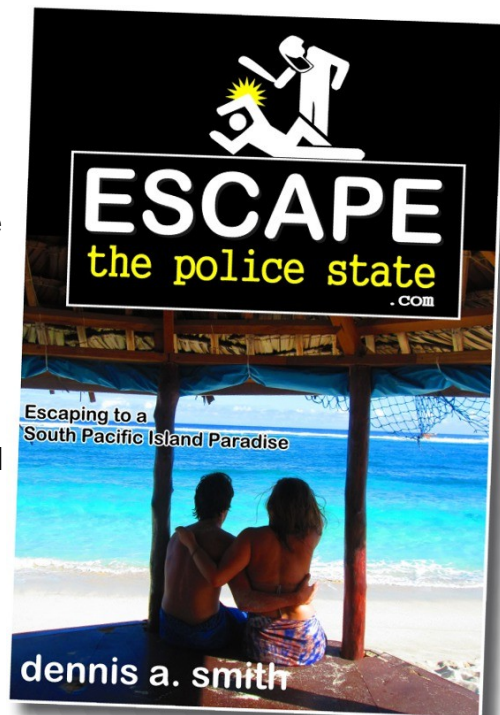
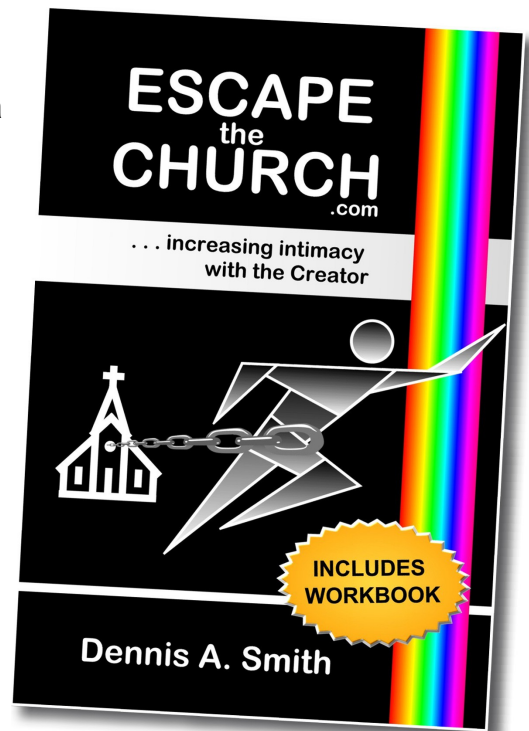
Who among those becoming aware of the subtle restricting influence of a church out to control them, (rather than encouraging the freedom that faith in Christ promised), would not want to know how to escape from whatever it was that concerned them?

Likewise, who among those who were alarmed at the increasing negative effect of overt police abuse would not want to consider moving their family to what was perceived as a tropical island "Paradise"?

Monetisation of our lessons learned – be it the deep & personal things such as our faith or the opportunity to enjoy a change of lifestyle in a South Pacific Island Paradise - requires a three-fold understanding:

1. We need to know and understand what it is that we have to offer, be that inside knowledge, wisdom, or experiences. In marketing terms this is the "steak";
2. We have to know and understand our target market – i.e. who they are, what they need and seek (not always the same I might add), and
3. How to connect those two mentioned. We talk of & develop the "sizzle", not the steak.

If you get those three things right, people will pay you for what you have to offer. If you are getting value from this resource, then we have the three things done right. Understand?



50. Force, A Cultural Conflict

Edward Joseph Schmidt from Alafua in Apia, called himself “Force”. He is a Samoan national who got way out of his depth engaging with a foreign culture – one that dealt with life by principle rather than expediency.

As a result, he found himself in a lot of trouble before the Samoan courts – perjury, theft, wilful damage sort of thing.

Force applied his Samoan ways outside of his comfort zone and faced resulting embarrassment as he was dealt with in the Western-style justice system of Samoa, rather than the Samoan-style dispute resolution.

His case provides us with a strong lesson in cross-cultural challenges – even within one's own country.

In Western Societies a court is appointed to hear matters of dispute. Abstracts such as truth & honesty are applied generally equally before the law. It is seen as a disadvantage to have people know each other in this situation so that any possibility of a conflict of interest is minimised.

In Samoan society however everybody not only knows each other they are often related. The Samoan culture is more focussed upon relationships than absolutes or abstracts. If the person you are engaging with has a higher status than you, then you will naturally give way (or give in) if there is a dispute. Justice is based on the keeping of peace and avoiding shame than using any abstracts like honesty or morality. It is more relational.

Abuse of power comes through the manipulation of the political/legal system through money. We will attempt to buy justice by engaging the best lawyers. In Samoa influence in the traditional village is done through personal relationships. Not only does it matter who you know, but more, what you have over the other person at the time of dispute resolution.

For whatever reason, Force went from being a trusted employee and friend to an enemy. He considered that he had a right to lie (“You are a foreigner in my country”), to steal (“You have more than me and I will take what I want from you”) and destroy others' possessions as he so chose (If I can't have it then you sure as hell can't use it).

Unfortunately for him the Palagi who he took on was a Private Investigator who had the evidence and the intestinal fortitude to engage the Western-style systems of justice.

Force was duly arrested, charged and found guilty of multiple property crimes.



TIP 37:



Cross cultural challenges abound and are increasing globally. Truth though, while an abstract and foreign to some cultures, is universally respected. Our minds can play games over legal, cultural and some human issues, but at heart we all recognise the truth.

51. Tuila'epa.com Porn

I share here three big 'shames' relating to Tuila'epa , the Prime Minister of Samoa, a man whom I call a coward and a crook – a corrupt politician overseeing a small proud nation.

1. TUILAEPACOM - In 2010 I secured the domain name www.tuilaepa.com for the 'big man'. Sadly, or humorously if you despise the man, it is now an Asian porn site.

He will never get the domain name back.

For the record, I had nothing to do with this state of affairs. I always attempt to be the consummate professional and was a leader in the IT industry in New Zealand. I still retain information given to me by the 'big man' up there in confidence, and no action taken against me by a cowardly political leader will ever cause me to stoop to a level of petty politics. Even now, if he approached me, apologised and admitted his illegal conduct in declaring me a prohibited immigrant and preventing my return to my Samoan wife and family in Samoa, I would help him.

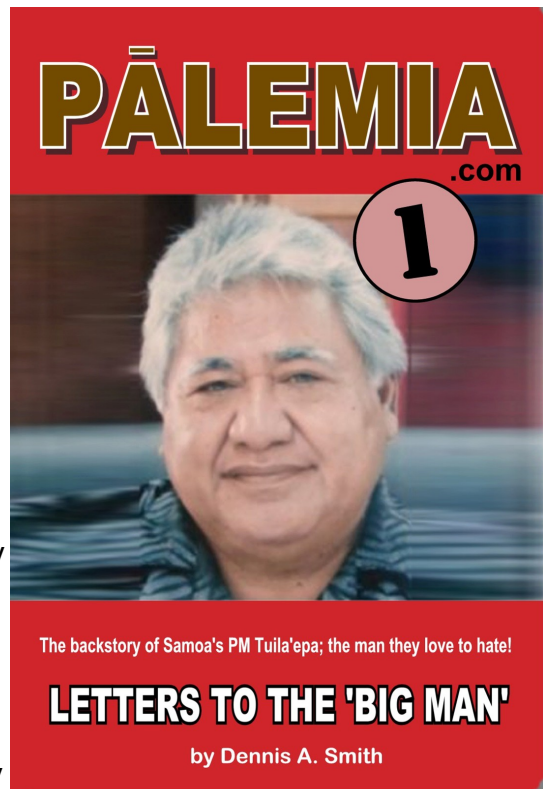
He won't however, for Samoans can never apologise, for cultural 'shaming' reasons.

The facts are however that while he used my expertise his online profile went up. When he cast me adrift over a matter of integrity (surely there wasn't a woman involved, was there?) I withdrew my supporting advice. He is now facing shame across the globe with women's genitalia in the face of visitors to his personal name. It is difficult to describe the disgrace that this brings the people of Samoa, the majority of them highly religious and within a culture where they say, "shame is worse than death".

IMHO, it is appropriate that his name will now be associated with sexual immorality as it was my naming of his mistress, a 'close' CEO caught having sex with him in his office, that was his undoing.

2. PALEMIA.COM - When releasing his memoirs, Tuila'epa called his book Palemia (Samoan for Prime Minister). I wrote four books of the same name and own www.palemia.com. $2 + 2 = ???$

3. THE ENTIRE .WS NAMESPACE - In 1999, Tuila'epa and one of his 'friends' Octevi (eventual owner of the then government owned CSL) sold the entire .ws namespace to a private entity – along with only one other island nation stupid enough to do this. Akin to selling the goose that lays the golden egg, the income to Samoa in the 20+ years since would have paid off the national debt. And he regularly calls others a fool? Go figure!



52. Holocaustianity

Researching the Holocaust is one of the most dangerous tasks that can be undertaken in the West. The Shoah hoax is widely perceived in the Muslim countries as a Jewish “thing”, and is largely ignored in Asia. The fear of becoming labelled an anti-Semite has a massive dampening effect on all but the bravest.

It is though an effective lesson in truth-divining where the absence of facts and logical failure abound.

The core tenets of the Mainstream narrative are threefold: a) Hitler instructed the extermination of the Jews in WW2, the corollary is of course that he was an [evil] monster who hated the [innocent] Jews; b) That six million Jews were subsequently killed; & c) That these deaths were by Zyklon-B gas poisoning in Concentration Camps, such as Auschwitz.

My detailed research over many years has led me to believe that all three claims contain a large component of deception & are all patently false. All evidence provided by Holocaust proponents, and I mean all here, has been proven to be not only ungrounded, but in many cases is simply preposterous. Belief in the Holocaust as told by vested interests is akin to religious belief.

a) It is widely recognised, even by those who would prefer otherwise, that while Hitler fingered the overly self-serving interest of the Jewish bankers & business leaders in Germany; that he hated them with a passion & that he sought to have them exported. A stunning fact to many is that there is actually no evidence of any order for execution! Zip!

b) The six million figure is a marketing meme with spiritual connotations and was used by Jewish interests long before the Second World War. Any claim endorsed by figures and facts later disproven from one source, then validated from another source, must lose all credibility. The six million figure has remained embedded as 'gospel' in Western minds despite the changing 'validations'. I have shown this clearly in my blogging.

c) All credible evidence shows that what is claimed is not only impossible, it never occurred, period. Gassing by Zyklon-B (let alone in the volume, location and circumstances claimed) is practically and technically impossible. No credible evidence exists. None. Many revisionists have researched & proven this claim many times, over many decades but their work, careers (& sometimes lives) have been actively suppressed.

The two competing stories are best summarised as, “I don't care what you say! It happened so therefore we must/will interpret any evidence available (even if it questions the narrative) in that light that it happened”.

On the contrary, others prepared to face the wrath of vested interests say, “I don't care what you say! Because, something cannot happen [as you claim], it obviously didn't!”

It's difficult for a truthseeker seeking to find the truth to argue with that logic.



53. About the Author

Dennis A. Smith is a New Zealand based author, blogger, NZ licensed private investigator and entrepreneur.

His online 'handle' is *victusinambitus*:

VICTUS = [Lat] life or living

IN = in, on, around

AMBITUS = the circle, the circumference, the edge

This is a way of living, of maximising every opportunity.

"Sometimes when you live on the edge you fall off, but you never miss a thing in the process and thus have no regrets. After all," as he says, "You can always get back up and on!"

Dennis spent the first decade of his adult life in and around the Coromandel region of New Zealand; raised his children on Auckland's North Shore and emigrated to Samoa shortly following the September 2009 Tsunami.

His investigative blogging landed him in trouble with the Samoan Prime Minister (when he wrote the book "Corruption in Samoa" and named the PM's mistress) who had him secretly declared a "Prohibited Immigrant".

In 2016 he reestablished himself in New Zealand following a total loss in Samoa and now conducts his writing and investigative work from a custom-built house-truck under the brand Writing the Wrong®. His by-line is "Get your story out!" helping and motivating others to establish, value and share their story – good or bad.

He has a special interest in the Samoan culture viewed from a Christian perspective as well as alternative currencies, particularly commercial barter exchanges, which have formed a large part of his past exposés.

He blogs at his personal website: www.dennis.nz, as he puts it, taking on the "crooks, crims & crazies" of this world.



