

# Scientology: What is it?

Most people associate scientology with VIPs like Tom Cruise or John Travolta

By Sandy Pietrzok, Jasmin EL Bouchtili, Nathalie Lieberda

Scientology is a sect created by American science fiction author L. Ron Hubbard. Faith in democracy, freedom and individualism? Or Anti-Americanism, Buddhism and Psychos?

Scientology-Organization The Church of Scientology has a complex, hierarchically organized structure. At the top is the Religious Technology Centre. Under this there are three main pillars of Organization:

1. Church of Scientology International ->global
2. ABLE-network
3. World Institute of Scientology Enterprise ->works with Scientology companies

They work together with many other churches, where you can do a Scientology Training-Course. In the United States a book and a video about the Scientology membership of Hollywood star Tom Cruise roused attention. Almost at the same time with a controversial biography of the 45-year-old actor a four-year-old video appeared on the internet in which Cruise is called the Scientologists' ruler of the Spirit ("authorities on the mind").

In the biography, which is going to appear in Germany this Thursday the British author Andrew Morton says that Cruise was the second man at the head of the Scientology organization.

But is that believable? Tom Cruise, a famous actor, nice father and a visitor of "Wetten dass"? Just a few days ago on 24th January 2009 he focused all cameras on him and presented his new film "Operation Walküre".

More members of scientology: Brandy - R&B singer, actress Nancy Cartwright - Voiceover Artist from Bart Simpson Haywood Nelson - actor Jason Lee - actor Priscilla Presley .



Actor Tom Cruise.

# The war between Palestine and Israel

By Gamze Temelci, Jessica Medrano Jimenez, 9b

As you know for more than 20 days now there has been a terrible war between Palestine and Israel. Some of you may ask how it has come to this situation. We will tell you about the history and the current events. Many years ago there were some Jewish people living in Palestine. But some of them decided to go to Europe and lived there for a time. In 1933 American and French military troops came to the Arabian country of Palestine. They promised the Jews that they would help them to get a part of Palestine and have their own state, which of course made them very happy.

After a long time lots of Israelis had problems in Europe. They were expelled from there or left because they were politically persecuted. They had no rest and wanted to go back to Palestine. The American and French troops and of course the Jews fought for an independent Israeli country. They drove the Palestinians out of their cities and villages. Most of them went to refuge camps then. The Israelis won more and more surface. In 1948 they founded Israel as an independent country. Nothing happened then. But suddenly in 1968 there was a war between Israel, Palestine and the neighbouring countries Egypt, Syria, the Irak and Jordan. After six days it finished.

In 2001 the Palestinians decided to make an uprising because of suppression and because they hadn't got any rights. It failed to be very successful. They were only left with the Gaza strip and the West Banks. In 2004 Jassir Arafat, one of the important political leaders died. So new elections took place in Palestine. Hamas was not widely accepted because most people said that they were like terrorists. So the Palestinians also elected the liberal ones "Fatah".

"Hamas" and "Fatah" discussed how they could split the government. Hamas got "Gaza" and Fatah the West Banks. Suddenly there were some threats from Israel to Gaza and Hamas but Hamas still refuses to recognize Israel because of the oppression of Palestine.

Gaza was surrounded by the Israelis. They took the electricity supply, food and water from the Arabs. Hamas, the party which rules in Gaza started to attack Israel with big rockets and demanded to stop the suppression and continue the electricity, food and water supply.

They wanted to have their rights. The Israelis said that

"Hamas" had provoked the war.

So they did not want to stop that war. Suddenly the Jewish people also fired rockets to the other side. That's why the war started. More than twenty days ago. Every day and every night so many people die because of the bombs. The Israelis are so strong that the Palestinians can't do anything. The country is full of blood and corpses.



Hard live: A boy in Palestina.

## COMMENT

### Isn't it shocking ?

Here is some information about the casualties. The victims after 20 days of war:

Palestians:  
Dead people: 1013  
Children: 311  
Women: 102  
Injured people: 4500  
Children: 1'600  
Women: 730  
Israelis:

Civilians: 3  
Soldiers: 12  
Injured people: 110  
Isn't it shocking ?  
Can you see how good our life in Germany is?  
That we have everything we need. That we are not at war and people don't die because of that. Appreciate this. Think about it.

# A survey about youth habits in 2008

The research of the 9c reveals astounding new facts about the young people of our times

By Marvin Czichy and Slimane Leham

The pupils of a class from the secondary school "Realschule Kastanienallee" in Velbert asked many youths questions about different themes. They asked for example: "Have you got your own computer?" The most of them answered with "yes". But 12 percent denied. Possible reasons could be that they haven't got enough money for a computer or they think that they don't need it because they are worried about getting worse marks at school or the parents don't allow them to have one.

Another question about computers was the following one:

"Have you got an internet connection?" The most of them answered with "yes". A little group of them are allowed to use their internet connection, but only when the parents can control what they are doing. Others aren't allowed to have an internet connection because

se their parents think that it isn't good for them because there are many dangers on the internet. Directly connected with the subject "internet" are computer games and the internet provider. The majority of the teenagers between 14 and 17 years have got the provider

"Telekom" but there are many other internet providers as for example "Vodafone", "1und1", "Arcor", "Alice" etc.

The favourite online games are "World of Warcraft", "Age of Conan" and "Warhammer Online". Most of the young people play one till two hours a

day. A big part of the pupils interviewed played on the computer between two and four hours. All youngsters like fast food. The most of them eat at McDonald's.

The most youths spend not more than ten euros a month. Another theme is alcohol. 40 percent of the youth drink alcohol at parties because they think that they loose "the party feeling" without it. But not all of them drink alcohol regularly. A big part of them (30 %) only drinks alcohol sometimes. A reason could be that the parents pay attention that they don't do it.

A part which is as big as this one doesn't drink any alcohol at parties.

A reason could be that they don't like alcohol or that they aren't allowed to drink it. Others aren't allowed to drink alcohol because their religion is against it or they think that is too dangerous for them.

What about music? The two biggest groups of asked pupils listen to music on mobile phones and with the aid of other

media. Two other big groups listen to music on VIVA and on MTV. A little group listens to music on radios and no one listens to VIVA+.

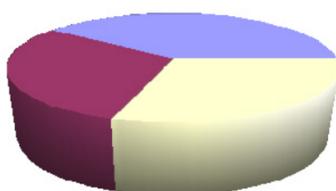
But... what do they do in their free time?

More than half of them are or were members in sport clubs. Many like to play football and to go to a fitness club. But not all of them attend a fitness club or visit clubs for sports like football because they don't want to do sport or because they haven't got enough time for it. Or they can't pay it. A smaller amount of them claims that they are team players.

Two other groups don't see themselves as team players or don't know what they are. But there are other free time activities. Most of the youth go out or do other things. A few go to a cinema. They do so when they want to meet friends for example.

All in all, the young people of our times are very active and like to take part in all sorts of activities apart from school. J

## Do you drink alcohol on parties?



■ Yes  
■ No  
■ Sometimes

# They underestimate the danger of drugs

By Mustafa Salci, 9b

Consuming drugs is much more common in teenage life than in any other stage of life. During adolescence teenagers have to master lots of personal, sexual or professional developments. They have to solve conflicts or contradictions. Frequently teenagers are afraid of that they cannot live up to the expectations of their parents, teacher or other persons they feel close to. These problem often lead to taking to drugs. For teenager drugs are a way of dealing with problems - for a short time.

Drugs give them a feeling of solidarity in a group and are said to improve the mood and make them the worry less. But taking drugs has more disadvantages than teenagers think. They underestimate the danger of drugs! Consuming drugs on a long term basis leads to changes in their personality and the strategy of mastering their life. In Germany most problems are: "smoking; drinking alcohol and taking drugs.

20% of 11 year olds have already smoked a cigarette. 80% of 17 year olds have tried smoking. 39% of 17 year old boys and girls smoke regularly. Most teenagers say that they have already been drunk at the age of 14. 63% of 17 year old boys and 40% of girls are often drunk. The teenagers who live in cities consume more drugs than the teenagers living in villages. I have interviewed someone my age to ask about his experience with drugs. He wanted to stay anonymous, however his case is not exceptional.

**What drugs do you take?**  
I take marihuana and I drink alcohol.  
**How often do you take drugs?**  
I take drugs every day.  
**Who do you take drugs with?**  
I take them with friends.  
**How many years have you taken drugs?**  
I have taken them for 5 years.  
**How old were you when you took your first drugs?**  
I was 11 when I started.  
**Where do you get the money for your drugs from?**  
I get it from my parents.