

**Email from Happy Leman** - Vineyard USA Regional Overseer and National Board Member during Steve Morgan's time in the Vineyard

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**From:** Happy Leman [REDACTED] >  
**To:** Andrew Lumpe [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 23rd, 2021 at 12:48 PM  
**Subject:** Re: questions about background of Steve Morgan

Andrew,

This situation is a sad mess. I'm very disappointed as this will not likely have been

First, I knew nothing about this legislation. Steve does not seem to be this kind of a person. However, looks can be very deceiving in this day and age

Second, I don't know what I would do if I were you. I believe it's well within reasonable expectations that you would follow through and find out the truth. On the other hand, there will be great damage and destruction if the past allegations are all true.

You have my blessings as you proceed either way. If you find something specific, would you please let me know. I still have friends and relatives of friends in this group.

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**From:** Andrew Lumpe [REDACTED] >  
**To:** Happy Leman [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Saturday, November 13th, 2021, at 9:46 PM  
**Subject:** questions about background of Steve Morgan

Hi Happy,

My name is Andrew Lumpe. My wife and I were originally a part of the Carbondale Vineyard and went on the Seattle Bluesky Church plant with Steve Morgan in 2004. I was a non staff overseer and vice president of the board at Bluesky and my wife the bookkeeper. My wife and I were part of Vineyards in Kansas and Toledo starting in 1991 before going to Carbondale and we've known David and Debi Stark since the early 1980s as we grew up in the same town. It was hard for us when Steve pulled Bluesky and the other churches out of the Vineyard but at the time we didn't feel we had much choice given the fact that we had moved our family to the other side of the country. We are no longer part of Steve Morgan's network and are now attending the Raleigh Vineyard in North Carolina.

My purpose in contacting you is to share some information that I learned about Steve Morgan's background and ask your thoughts about it. It's a rather long story and I'll try to be as brief as possible. In 2006, not long after Morgan left the Vineyard, he started to exhibit signs of a serious mental breakdown. As an overseer, I was ready to ask him to take a leave and seek professional help. He sent two other overseers to me to give an explanation for his anguish. They told me that when Morgan was 22, he was serving as a youth group leader in a church in his hometown. He was arrested for sexually assaulting a 17 year old male boy who was a member of the youth group. Physical contact with the victim was made. The case was adjudicated by the court but I'm not clear on all the details. The other two overseers told me to keep quiet about it, not tell anyone including my wife, and that I had to trust Morgan

as my pastor because they did. Morgan only spoke with me about it once and that was to tell me that a one of the other overseers tried to locate the arrest record but couldn't and Morgan expressed great relief. After feeling pressured to keep it on the down low (bullied?), I did keep quiet about it but for years wondered about the implications.

In 2019, I began to think more about this especially in light of the increasing number of cases of clergy sex abuse and concerns about Morgan's controlling behaviors. I was afraid to raise the issue within the network and started seeking advice from a theologian, abuse advocates, a Christian clinical psychologist, and also from David Stark. They all agreed that the leadership of Morgan's network needed to be aware of this dark secret. Most pointed me to a non profit group called GRACE and the director contacted me immediately expressing grave concern. He wanted to work with the network to conduct an investigation and help them work through the issues. GRACE tried to locate the arrest record but the case was apparently sealed to protect the victim. Morgan's network now has a Network Leadership Team of five pastors who have "oversight" over him. However, they are all his handpicked guys who he choose while in college and trained. I eventually sent a letter to them outlining Morgan's criminal background, included a list of questions, and asked them to work with GRACE. They refused to take any action and I eventually got portrayed as the bad buy in all of this resulting in threats, hate mail and canceling of long term relationships. There is much more to this sordid story but I'll spare the details.

There is a group of three former pastors who left Morgan's network and myself who are meeting with experts in sex abuse in the church, an attorney, and an investigator trying to gather information. The plan being to corroborate as much information as we can and then make a plan for how to properly address it.

My questions for you are twofold. 1. Did Morgan ever talk about any sin issues or related sex assault crimes with you? David Stark, who was Morgan's APC, said he did not know about these issue. Steve Nicholson also said he was not aware. Rick Olmstead also said he never heard anything while he was a national board member. I know that Morgan went to Phoenix before the Seattle plant for some background checking but he could've avoided the sex assault issue during that process. 2. What would you recommend our group do about addressing this serious issue in light of the fact that Morgan's network leadership refuses to adequately address it?

Thanks for taking time to read this long message. I realize you likely put Steve Morgan in the rearview mirror long ago after he pulled out the Vineyard. But I appreciate any insight you may provide. Please keep this information confidential for the time being until we figure out a clear path forward.

I'd be glad to speak more if you like and would even be glad to connect via phone

(XXXXXXXXXX).

Take care, Andrew