

# Additional cause to distrust the Network Leadership

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Recently it has been publicly shared that sometime around 2007, the leader of the Network, Steve Morgan, engaged in some additional bad behavior. Sandór Paull makes allusion to this in his talk to his church on July 17, 2022.

<https://leavingthenetwork.org/network-churches/sexual-abuse-allegations/sandor-paull-response/>

Specifically, as the (so far un-contradicted) story goes, it seems as though Steve went on a hike at a particularly popular and usually busy park outside of Seattle. He hiked to the lake on that trail, skinny dipped in the lake, and then masturbated.

[https://www.reddit.com/r/leavingthenetwork/comments/10ty6du/comment/j7crpke/?utm\\_source=share&utm\\_medium=web2x&context=3](https://www.reddit.com/r/leavingthenetwork/comments/10ty6du/comment/j7crpke/?utm_source=share&utm_medium=web2x&context=3)

Much has been made of this with respect to Steve Morgan and his qualification to be a pastor. Despite the many claims that this “public” masturbation (there’s no reason to believe anyone else saw at this point) disqualify him, that is not the purpose of this post.

Sandór Paull and, presumably, other members of the Network Leadership knew about this occurrence. In /u/Network-Leaver’s comment in the reddit thread, apparently it was confessed to all lead pastors in September 2020. So by the time that we arrive at July 2022, every lead pastor and every member of the Network Leadership Team knows about this alarming occurrence.

On July 8, 2022, Sandór Paull circulated to all of the lead pastors a letter signed in their collective names. <https://leavingthenetwork.org/network-churches/sources/network-response-to-allegations/>

In the letter, the Network Leadership Team claims that Steve has “continued to walk in character, integrity and purity since he became a follower of Jesus..”

Sandór and the other members of the Network Leadership Team – and the lead pastors, for that matter – knew of this episode at Snow Lake when this letter came out. While simultaneously knowing of this extremely troublesome behavior (and the fact that it was confessed first to a young college-aged man), they offered us assurances of Steve’s purity and integrity.

It was close enough to Sandór’s mind that it came up, unprompted, 9 days later in his address to church members on the subject.

It was dishonest to claim that Steve has continued to walk in purity and integrity when this busy park masturbation episode was known to them. It is dishonest to stand by this statement and allow it to go unaddressed.

February 20, 2023   jasonr    [Uncategorized](#)

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