

Corruption in Norway - the sinister story.

Fampo is a Norwegian human rights organisation which struggles against corruption and human rights violations in Norway – and possesses documentation on severe and systemic abuse of power.

With more than 10,000 coercive hospitalisations each year, Norway is the European country where most people are being coercively hospitalised, relative to population numbers. Both concrete cases and statistics demonstrate a total lack of judicial security for people who are hospitalised and drugged. In the year 1996, 9651 Norwegians were coercively hospitalised. That year, the control commissions, which are in charge of handling complaints on coercive hospitalisations, endorsed 49 complaints. That was outnumbered by the number of control commissions (57)!

Norway is notorious for its child protection system, excessively taking children away from their parents. In 2006, scientist Joar Tranøy wrote a report to the University of Stockholm, about the methods used by psychologists involved in child protection cases. Tranøy examined 37 cases where biological parents had contacted him. Tranøy found that in 16 of the reports concerning the parents' ability to take care of their children, the psychologists had used slander as a source. Other kinds of methodological weaknesses were even more often present. For further reading on the child protection system in Norway, we recommend http://www.barnasrett.no/welcome_to_barnasrett.htm.

The truth about corruption and human rights violation is not told in the Norwegian press. In the year 2000, however, a local Newspaper, *Bygdeposten*, published many strong articles and editorials concerning abuse of power. Fampo provided documentation for the articles. As an example, *Bygdeposten's* readers could read that the police at Sunnmøre demanded a mental examination of Kåre Torvholm and Oddmar Remøy, both with clean legal records. It was later on revealed, through a taped telephone conversation, that the indictment against Torvholm and Remøy built on false premises.

Kåre Torvholm, whom the police wanted mentally examined, was a pioneer in exposing economical criminality in the fishing industry. In her book, *Fragler, finst dei?* ("Fraggles, do they exist"), former MP Marie Lovise Widnes describes Torvholms struggle against a strong criminal network – and some of the methods used against him.

In a report published on Fampo's website, Fampo's chairman Dag Hiåsen shows how systematic corruption is a cause of increasing poverty in Norway – and demonstrates that the explanations presented by politicians and media do not concur with facts. Ordinary citizens may lose a lot of money in corrupt trials. That includes documented corruption in cases where people have been forced to sell their homes. In many cases people who have exposed corruption, have met a variety of sanctions, including not getting a job. Surveys also show that a large number of employees in i.e. health care are afraid of sanctions if they blow the whistle on conditions that deserve critique.

Fampo – People's Action against Abuse of Power, Police State and a Culture of Violation
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