

i. Members of religious groups may also be permitted to have religious medals or comparable insignia provided that the wearing of such symbols does not create disciplinary or custodial problems or that they do not constitute what under usual rules of the institution may be defined as contraband.

2. REGULATION OF RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES

In any society there is the likelihood of occasional or even frequent conflict between an individual's religion-inspired inclinations or obligations and his need to comply with requirements of civil authority. The problem is enlarged when he is an inmate of a total institution, and especially a prison. Although we wish to minimize such conflicts, there are constraints in the correctional setting that must be recognized, understood and accommodated. The following list is not exhaustive but should serve as a useful set of guidelines for local administrations.

a. *Freedom to change religious affiliations.*—We have set up a requirement (Para. 1C above) that staff not seek to change an individual's religious affiliation. At the same time we require that individuals be assisted in their pursuit of religious knowledge and devotion. At times a chaplain will find it almost impossible to observe both dicta, because to provide an individual with requested instruction or counsel could encourage him along a course that will result in a change of religious affiliation. Granting the potential contradiction, the chaplain can partially resolve the conflict by encouraging an individual to defer his identifying with a new religious denomination (as by baptism, for example) so long as he is confined. Such enrollment can be taken care of after the inmate's release to the community by the prospective pastor. This policy could well be modified, of course, in the case of long-term prisoners, an individual who may be near death, or a situation where conversion to a particular religion would strengthen family ties or produce other desirable results.

Although the decision to change a religious affiliation is the responsibility of the inmate, it should be made with the advice and guidance of the chaplain. Each conversion should be recorded in the inmate file, and notification given to the Warden and the Supervising Chaplains, and, where appropriate to members of the immediate family. In cases of minors parental consent must be obtained.

b. *Attendance at religious services.*—The worship services led by the regular institutional chaplains usually meet religious needs of the inmates. The Protestant service is specially designed to be non-denominational in nature, and Catholic services are increasingly of a nature to meet the needs of persons of other faiths. In addition, special non-denominational services may be arranged on occasion, such as in connection with certain holidays, religious feast days, commemoration of some major public event, etc.

We recognize the fact that members of some religious faiths have special needs which cannot be met by the services of the institutional chaplain. For example, there are some Protestant denominations in which there are special requirements surrounding the administration of the Sacraments. Jewish inmates, members of the Church of Jesus Christ and the Latter Day Saints, Jehovah's Witnesses, and others also have special religious needs.

The chaplains are responsible for coordination of all religious services. When inmate request shows the need for such denominational activity, the chaplain may, with the approval of the Warden, provide contract coverage from the local community, or as suggested by the appropriate administrative office of the denomination involved. Such special denominational activities shall be scheduled at a time when the institution can provide adequate staff supervision. Services conducted by a regularly appointed chaplain, contract chaplain, or approved civilian religious leader shall be open to the general population, with consent of the religious leader involved. Where religious groups with special needs are without the services of a visiting clergyman, they may, on recommendation of the chaplain and with approval of the Warden, be permitted to meet for religious activities under supervision of a staff member. Inmate conducted religious activities are not open to the general population, but shall be limited to bona fide members of the group holding the service. Under no circumstances will members of a religious group be permitted to proselytize members within the institution population.

c. *Religious instruction.*—Chaplains should attempt to meet the needs of all inmates for religious education, but they may and should utilize the services of voluntary and contractual representatives of various denominations to supplement their own program. Participation in such instruction classes shall be ap-