

tradition is doing it right and others are not, it is a kind of way to feel safe. In our reviews of the literature on this subject we found a number of articles expressing fear that other tradition may steal members away from them if they get together. It reminds one of the fears many parents have of not wanting their child to go off to college. Who knows what they may find there?

3. We have not found a common cause that we can all work towards. This probably has the greatest ring of truth. We can all get together and have a conference, but what do we do then?

A common cause is needed that all can contribute to. There are important causes in the world which strongly need theosophical wisdom. For example, we have a student now working in the area of the trafficking of young woman into prostitution. As we understand, The Theosophical Order of Service has done outstanding work and it is an independent organization. Would this be an area we could unite behind and work through the TOS to help? The dignity of each individual on the path towards greater consciousness certainly applies to help for these young women. Are there other causes that we can support?

4. Can we, as a unity of all Theosophical traditions, reach out to other religious/spiritual organizations to promote greater harmony and compassion? It is our understanding that one of the reasons the Dalai Lama was hosted by the Theosophical Society recently is that theosophists do this. (The Theosophical Society in America hosted an event with the Dalai Lama on July 17-18, 2011 as part of their Summer National Gathering)

In conclusion, we find some successes and some failures in this path towards unity and brotherhood. We are all inter-dependent. Are any of these valiant efforts lost? As the Dalai Lama said:

“As long as we live in this world we are bound to encounter problems. If, at such times, we lose hope and become discouraged, we diminish our ability to face difficulties. If, on the other hand, we remember that it is not just ourselves but everyone who has to undergo suffering, this more realistic perspective will increase our determination and capacity to overcome troubles. Indeed, with this attitude, each new obstacle can be seen as yet another valuable opportunity to improve our mind! It is because our own human existence is so dependent on the help of others that our need for love lies at