



# WATCHTOWER

BIBLE AND TRACT SOCIETY OF NEW YORK, INC.

25 COLUMBIA HEIGHTS, BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11201, U.S.A.

PHONE (718) 625-3600

August 1, 1991

TO ALL CONGREGATIONS

Dear Brothers:

Some brothers have inquired about an emergency information card (or something similar) used in most states that is to be filled out by all parents or guardians who have children attending school. The card is written so as to require the parents to consent in advance to any required treatment which a licensed physician may deem necessary. The concern is that such treatment may include a blood transfusion.

We have been advised that the parents have the right to insert the words "except blood transfusions" anywhere indicated on the document, and that the parents should initial each of the added phrases. As proof of the amended authorization, parents should keep a copy in their personal file.

The school or hospital offices may complain and say that such changes entirely invalidate the authorization. This is not the case. School and hospital officials should know that an emergency in itself does not necessarily mean that a blood transfusion is required. Also, the conscience of the Christian parent may possibly allow for an acceptable type of nonblood management.

We hope this is of assistance to you. If problems occur with the adjusting of these emergency information cards, please do not hesitate to inform us. We use this occasion to send our warm Christian love and best wishes.

Your brothers in Jehovah's service,

*Watchtower B. & T. Society*

OF NEW YORK, INC.

Hospital Information Services