

**I am an active member of the PSMSWG, but the voices of those of us who disagree with how this organization is run and what it really represents will not be heard at any event in Vegas.** I thought the PSMSWG might do some good. I now believe, because of its current organization and management the **PSMSWG will cause more harm than good for all the small businesses - retail, wholesale and manufacturers that make up 90% of our trade around the globe.**

**90 esteemed members of the colored gemstone trade signed a letter critical of PSMSWG's activities along with critical letters from the AGTA, ICA, NYGA, AWDC, TAMIDA and the Minister of Mineral Resources of South Africa.** I am requesting that CIBJO give careful scrutiny to the PSMSWG and its activities. I believe the organization and Authorship Team must be reorganized from top to bottom before it receives any support from the trade and CIBJO.

**Below are eight of the more important questions that need to be answered:**

1. **Why does the PSMSWG hide information?** The PSMSWG has refused to provide copies of all contracts, financial transactions, minutes and promotional material.
2. **How can the PSMSWG claim to be an international “Broad Based” organization** when there are no active Africans, Asians or Latin Americans from government or any of the sectors of the Jewelry trade? Why has their outreach program been a complete failure?
3. **How can the Authorship team be considered ethically sourced** when the person in charge of choosing the “short list”, John Hall, is on the Board of Directors of **SRS** the company he chooses as the lead Author? John Hall also works for Signet and no conflict of interest disclosure can be found for his involvement with SRS.
4. **How can the study be considered independent** under the following conditions:
  - a. SRS, the lead Authorship Company chosen by John Hall, who is also on their Board of Directors and works for Signet.
  - b. Matt Runci – ex CEO and Executive Director of JA is an editor of the report and on the Board of Directors of SRS.
  - c. James Lombe, who owns SRS, currently has a long term contract with JA and is the Director of Ethical Initiatives for JA.
  - d. All finances are run through JA and JA is one of the main forces behind PSMSWG.
5. **How can the PSMSWG be considered to be run by consensus** when the working group is not allowed to decide where presentations about PSMSWG should be made, who should make them and what should be said? There are no alternative or dissenting voices presented by the PSMSWG.
6. **Why is the “participants” list of approximately 91 individuals used as evidence for “Broad Based”** when only 30 are active, most are only observers and there may be some that have never participated?
7. **Why are 5 members of the U.S. Department of State involved?** One of their members stated they are one of the primary drivers behind the PSMSWG.

**8. Has Tyler Gillard of OECD already received a copy of the draft study?**

You are welcome to contact me for backup material on anything presented here. I am happy to provide copies of any letters and documents.

Thanks

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