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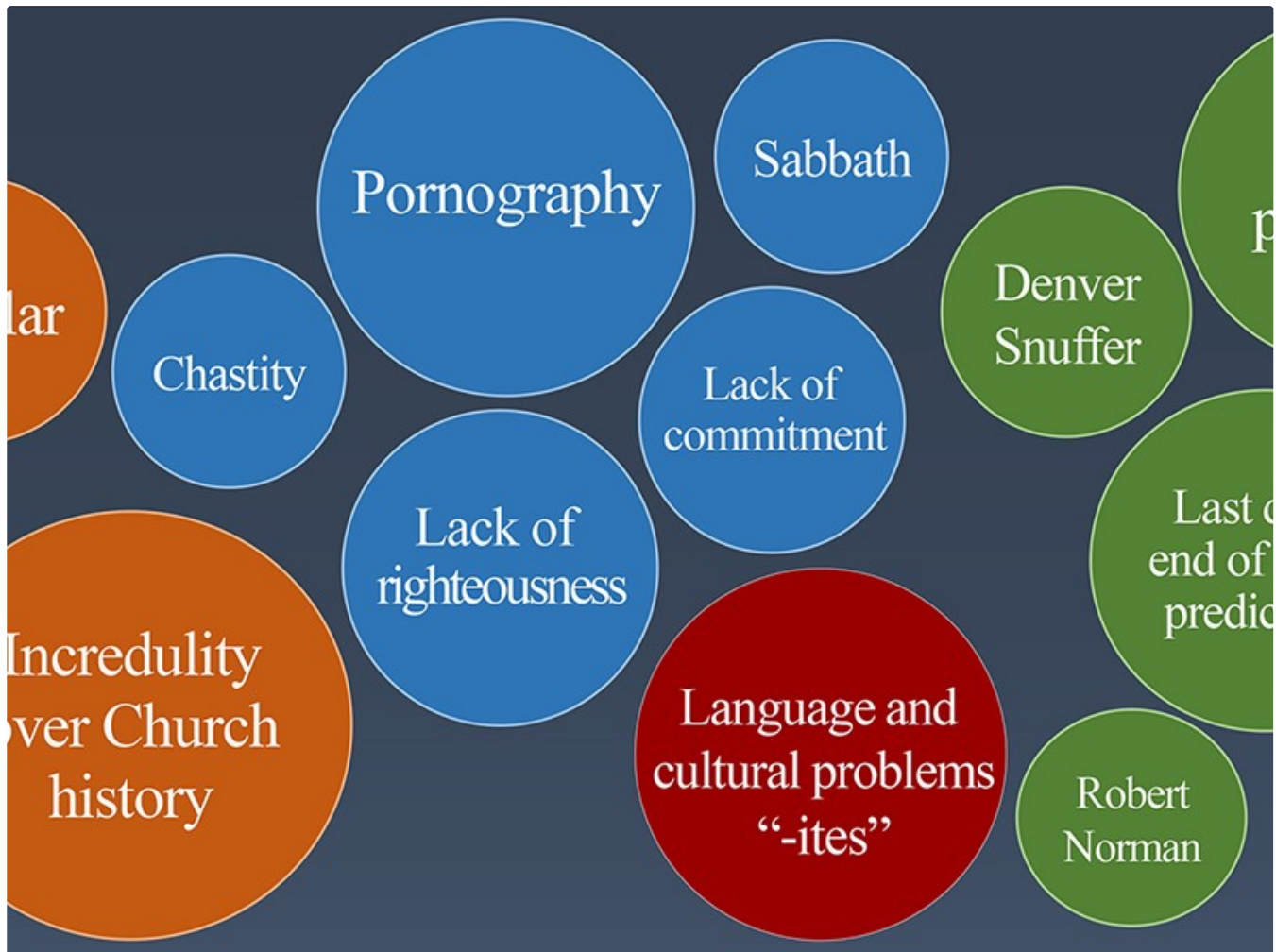
Latter-Day Saints

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Mormon church challenges legality of leaked documents

(RNS) The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints finally takes notice of MormonLeaks.



"Issues and Ideas Leading People Away from the Gospel." Graphic courtesy of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

March 15, 2017

By *Kimberly Winston*



“Issues and Ideas Leading People Away from the Gospel.” Graphic courtesy of MormonLeaks

(RNS) There’s WikiLeaks and VatiLeaks. And now there’s MormonLeaks.

[MormonLeaks](#) — a group of former Mormons who leak documents related to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints — is engaged in a legal tussle with the church over its latest batch of published data.

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The chart also lists “Incredulity over Church history” — a reference to skepticism about the historicity of events recounted in the Book of Mormon — pornography and secularism as issues pulling people out of the church.

The PowerPoint slide has [roiled the Mormon blogosphere](#) and has come to be called “an enemies list” by many inside and outside the church.

Lawyers for the church, which claims some 15 million members worldwide, asked MormonLeaks to take down the documents, claiming they are copyrighted and not authorized for publication. MormonLeaks’ lawyer has countered that claim by saying the documents were obtained legally and that it has a “[right to distribute it in its capacity as a journalistic resource.](#)”

MormonLeaks was founded by Ryan McKnight, a Mormon activist with a history of leaking church information. Most of its leaked documents deal with church finances. A 2012 Reuters investigation estimated member tithes alone bring the church \$7 billion a year.

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