

Is it true that Jim Jones, the religious leader who oversaw the mass suicide in Guyana last month, didn't want to return to the United States because he had an illegitimate child?

That's what he said in a letter to San Francisco Chronicle columnist Herb Caen. He said he feared his church would lose its tax-exempt status because he had fathered a child with a woman in the church to whom he wasn't married. "All my life, I have endured the pain of poverty," he wrote Caen, "and suffered many disappointments and heartaches common to humankind. For that reason, I try to make others happy and secure."



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