

# SDM at University of Southern California

## Claim

Sean Morton claims to have a Bachelor of Arts degree in Drama and Political Science from the University of Southern California. This claim was made on the **Montel Williams Show** (syndicated tv talk show) around November 1993, in response to a challenge by another guest, Russ Estes. Estes said that he tried to contact U.S.C., but that they could confirm only that Morton enrolled there, not that he graduated. [Reported in [DR #15](#)] Estes also said that he could not confirm Morton's "Doctor of Divinity" degree from Bahracah University.

Sean replied angrily that he did have a degree from U.S.C., and a copy of a U.S.C. diploma bearing his name was flashed on the screen. Sean said nothing about the Doctor of Divinity degree.

After the show, Morton wrote an angry letter to Estes, c/o the Montel Williams producer, Alex Williamson.

Mr. Russ Estes  
c/o Alex Williams [sic]  
The Montel Williams Show  
1500 Broadway Suite 700  
New York, New York, 10036

Dear Russ:

I am going to assume that you are not a bold faced liar who is out for some kind of warped revenge, or a person who is just trying to make a buck off baseless slander.

Let's try to solve this like gentlemen - enclosed is a copy of my U.S.C. diploma. I have also called the school and my records are intact. The rest of your "research" on me is equally faulty.

I hope this solves out problem. If not, I have consulted my attorney and any further slander directed toward me through your video series or elsewhere, will result in action taken against you.

Yours Truly,  
[BIG signature]  
Sean Morton

## Attempts to Confirm

The U.S.C. claim (but not the Doctor of Divinity) appears to be true.

Estes had apparently been tripped up by U.S.C.'s cumbersome system for confirming degrees. Degrees cannot be easily confirmed without a student's Social Security or student i.d. number, neither of which Estes had.

On Aug. 22, 1994, after encountering similar frustrations, journalist Michael Dornheim was able to get through to a managing staff member at the U.S.C. registrar's office who confirmed that a Sean David Morton did have a Bachelor's Degree in Drama and Political Science

## Conclusion

Sean Morton does have a B.A. degree in Drama and Political Science from the University of Southern California, Los Angeles, Calif.

*Glenn Campbell (campbell@ufomind.com) 12/5/94*