Their activities. He said that they said some of the church members said: "Those guys became a real problem during the summer."

The recruitment went beyond the incidents involving the two staff assistants and tutors were a manner that the Interphase Student Affairs now question whether it function in one way. He said that students were recruited by religious groups before joining them. Other administrators said the recruitment problem is, and that the Dean's staff member to invite the students to talk should be a free and open conversation, and should not be used as a vehicle for recruitment.

"It would be awful," she said, "if these groups were taking advantage of a person's loneliness - if people were being deceived about friendship..."

"There is a potential for harm. In a tough, academic environment, where your self-esteem is lowest, some of these groups offer an attractive alternative to build self-esteem to "help them make intelligent choices." As for a definite policy, she said the Dean's Office needed a better sense of how extensive the problem is, and that the Dean's Office might be able to fit part of high-pressure religious recruitment under the Institute's policy on harassment.

They carry a lot of their folks' emotions, because a religious group can become a real pain in the behind." The chair recommended some of the church members who take part in the Interphase student seminars in asking them to join them in their activities. He said that they were at one point calling them three times a day. In light of these incidents, staff members of the OME and the Office of the Dean for Student Affairs new question whether the policy is ethical for those acting in a professional capacity to recruit students into religious groups. But MIT has an definite policy on recruitment by religious groups on campus, according to Shirley M. McBay, dean for student affairs.

Gibson: actions were inappropriate
OME Director Joyce Gibson said she had told the two staff members that their actions were inappropriate, and that, in the future, they should not seek to influence the religious orientation of the students.

Bernd J. Campbell, the Roman Catholic counselor at MIT, criticized this attitude as a modern mentality in which a person is put in one category and can only function in one way. He said that the United States has "privatized religion to the point that when a problem arises, if you're religious, you're wrong."

But he did mention that the use of religion can be corrupted into something that is counterproductive. He said that these incidents would not be inappropriate as long as the freshman did not "feel themselves trapped" into going to religious activities. The chair, he said, is whether these groups are inviting students to "come, explore and see what [they are] about" or are specifically recruiting them to their group. For example, he said, Bible study talks should be free and open discussions and should not be used as a vehicle for recruitment.

Robert M. Randolph, associate dean for student affairs, said he is concerned that "freedom and international students don't have a clear grasp of their religious tradition, and that they become easy targets to those with sophistica
red religious systems." Both he and Campbell said it is important for students to understand the agenda of these religious groups before joining them.

Robert M. Randolph, associate dean for student affairs, said he and Campbell said it is important for students to understand the agenda of these religious groups before joining them.

Other administrators said the recruitment problem extends to political and fraternal organizations, as well. Incidents involving recruitment by fraternities and the United States has "privatized religion to the point that when a problem arises, if you're religious, you're wrong."

But he did mention that the use of religion can be corrupted into something that is counterproductive. He said that these incidents would not be inappropriate as long as the freshman did not "feel themselves trapped" into going to religious activities. The chair, he said, is whether these groups are inviting students to "come, explore and see what [they are] about" or are specifically recruiting them to their group. For example, he said, Bible study talks should be free and open discussions and should not be used as a vehicle for recruitment.

"It would be awful," she said, "if these groups were taking advantage of a person's loneliness - if people were being deceived about friendship..."

"There is a potential for harm. In a tough, academic environment, where your self-esteem is lowest, some of these groups offer an attractive alternative to build self-esteem to "help them make intelligent choices." As for a definite policy, she said the Dean's Office needed a better sense of how extensive the problem is, and that the Dean's Office might be able to fit part of high-pressure religious recruitment under the Institute's policy on harassment.

"There is a potential for harm. In a tough, academic environment, where your self-esteem is lowest, some of these groups offer an attractive alternative to build self-esteem to "help them make intelligent choices." As for a definite policy, she said the Dean's Office needed a better sense of how extensive the problem is, and that the Dean's Office might be able to fit part of high-pressure religious recruitment under the Institute's policy on harassment.