

Big Brother's David a cult hero

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David Tchappat with hosts Kyle Sandilands and Jackie O. (AAP)

By ninemsn staff

evictee David Tchappat has urged cult members who hate their lives to leave and rejoin the outside world.

The ex-member of the Exclusive Brethren has also revealed he wants to release a book about his experiences of growing up in the reclusive sect.

Tchappat, a 33-year-old firefighter, told *ninemsn* he had no regrets about airing his past on national television, saying it was his experiences in the sect which made him the person he is today.

"I'm an example of how you can go out and be successful," Tchappat said.

"I say to people that if you are thinking about leaving, and you're serious, take a punt and give it a go. You can always go back if you don't like it."

Tchappat lived in the Exclusive Brethren sect — which shuns TV, radio and the outside world — until he fled the controlling group at the age of 19.

The decision to leave meant Tchappat was forced to sever all ties with his family.

Tchappat has already penned a book about his experiences of living inside the sect, and is now hoping to find a publisher.

"I want to call it "Losing my religion"... there's a bit of interest in it... *A Current Affair* want me this week some time... so hopefully something can come of it," Tchappat told LIVENEWS.com.au

Other ex-cult members appear to have found inspiration in Tchappat's story, and have flocked to the *Big Brother* website

forums to share their own experiences.

"I know exactly how David feels. I have been through the same thing. I am only 19 and I left when I as 16. The hardest part is not having your mum or your brothers or sisters to talk to," mkybdva wrote on Tchappat's forum.

"Leaving was the hardest part for me, not that I regret it. I miss my family terribly, nothing ever makes up for that loss," another ex-cult member, lildeejae, wrote.

