

**ENCOMPASS AUSTRALASIA**

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20 August 2003

**CONFIDENTIAL**

Most Reverend Luc Matthys  
Bishop of Armidale  
Catholic Chancery Office  
PO Box 93  
ARMIDALE NSW 2350

Dear Bishop, Matthys,

Thank you for your letter of 22<sup>nd</sup> July, 2003 requesting a report on Mr John Farrell's presence at Encompass the week of July 21, 2003, and an opinion on the data you forwarded prior to the assessment. Please excuse my tardiness in replying but I have been away on vacation and have only just returned to the office.

In the initial stages of the assessment process Mr Farrell presented as guarded and suspicious and he questioned extensively his rights and issues of confidentiality. When these issues were addressed to his satisfaction, Mr Farrell participated in the assessment process in a cooperative manner, stating that he wished to gain deeper insight into his offending behaviour, and requesting professional advice for his future.

Without disclosing any personal information related to Mr Farrell I can inform you that the assessment team is of the opinion that Mr Farrell continues to pose a serious risk to children and adolescents, and that he demonstrates entrenched cognitive distortions and personality traits that further add to his risk. Mr Farrell's knowledge of victim impact is limited and he shows no insight into his behaviour and/or its underlying dynamics.

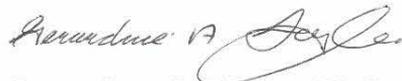
In relation to the data you forwarded, I am reluctant to comment except to say that it is obvious that Mr Farrell's problematic personality dynamics are long-standing, and that his pattern of sexually abusive behaviour is also long term. It is the opinion of the assessment team that Mr Farrell requires treatment but that the prognosis for him after treatment would probably at best be guarded and at worst poor. Our concern is that Mr Farrell is accountable to no one and continues to pose an unacceptable risk to minors.

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I am aware that the file you forwarded is still in our possession. Could you please advise how you would like it returned to you. We are happy to keep it in our file room until it can be collected personally if that is the best solution or we can courier it to you.

Bishop Matthys I am most grateful to you for your support of Encompass and of our staff as the work seems to be increasingly stressful and your kindness and encouragement is much appreciated

Sincerely,



**Gerardine A. Taylor, Ph.D.**  
Clinical Director

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