

Attention: Mark Mc Donnell
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Diocese of Wollongong		
10 APR 2000		
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March 31st, 2000

Most Rev P Wilson DD JCL
Bishop of Wollongong
PO Box 1239
Wollongong SCMC NSW 2521

CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Bishop Wilson,

I have received your letter of March 24th, 2000, in which you repeat your proposal in your letter of December 22nd, 1999, that an organization trading as "Transformative Justice Australia", be involved in mediation between yourself and me. You will be aware that on December 30th, 1999, I replied giving a number of reasons why this proposal could not be accepted. Your recent letter, after a delay of three months, adds nothing substantive to your earlier proposal. My answer is thus that your proposal cannot be accepted and is completely inappropriate.

You may recall that the period of dialogue directed by the Congregation for Clergy in mid August 1999, expired on November 30th. You may also recall that, during that period, I made every effort to initiate dialogue, to no avail, until a few days before that expiry date. At the meeting on November 27th, 1999, you made no concession, we agreed that no negotiated solution was possible, and agreed that the matter be referred to the Congregation for Clergy for its decision.

You might also recall that just prior to that meeting- in the period set aside by the Congregation for Clergy for dialogue aimed at normalization of my priestly life and *restoration of my good name*- an article appeared in the Illawarra Mercury, directly attributing to you, quotations defamatory of me. You have not refuted these statements and I have received confirmation that these defamatory statements were supplied to the newspaper by you, in spite of your clear denial of this to me at our November 27th, 1999 meeting.

Given these facts and others drawn to your attention in writing over the last two years, it would be unrealistic to expect that any "community conference", such as that marketed by "Transformative Justice Australia", would have any hope of success.

In addition, it would be completely inappropriate to embark on any civil law remedy, while the Congregation for Clergy is coming to its decision.

For these reasons, I cannot agree with the proposal you have made concerning a "community conference".

May I take this opportunity of wishing you every blessing for this Jubilee year.

Yours faithfully,



Father J G Nestor