

Whom do I contact?

Contacts



Cairns

Helen Sungaila — (070) 519-511

Tom Doolan — (070) 509-700

Townsville

Jim Erskine — (077) 71-3963

Mary Wallace — (077) 71-3963

Jim Quillinan — (077) 71-3963

Rockhampton

Margie Newton — (079) 27-6883

041 775 1535

Toowoomba

Therese O'Brien — (076) 32-3604

Brisbane

Julie Lindsay — 041 7736 746

Maureen O'Keeffe — 041 7736 746

Jill Uhr — 041 7736 746

Michael Locke — 041 7736 746

Bev Patterson — 041 7736 746



Information

The **Provincial Professional Standards Resource Group** has been appointed by Catholic bishops and religious leaders of Queensland and represents the five dioceses in the state.

It consists of professionally appropriate people including lay, religious and clergy.

Information can be obtained by writing to:

The Convener
Provincial Professional Standards
Resource Group
PO Box 233
The Gap Qld 4061

Confidentiality

*All complaints are processed
confidentially.*



30th June 1997

Provincial Professional Standards Resource Group

Complaints of
Sexual and
Physical Abuse
Against
Personnel of
the Catholic
Church in
Queensland



Response of the Church

Principles and procedures in responding to complaints of sexual abuse against personnel of the Catholic Church in Australia have been set out in the booklet Towards Healing.

As bishops and leaders of religious institutes of the Catholic Church in Queensland we acknowledge with deep sadness and regret that a number of clergy, religious, and other people who work in the name of the Church have sexually abused children, adolescents and adults who have been in their pastoral care.

Any form of sexual behaviour with a minor or adolescent is always sexual abuse. It is both immoral and criminal. Clergy, religious and others who work in the name of the Church are in a special position of trust and authority in relation to those who are in their pastoral care. For example; parishioners, people seeking advice, or students at schools...

Any attempt to sexualise a pastoral relationship is a breach of trust, an abuse of authority and professional misconduct.

To make your complaint known



1. Phone a Contact Person.
2. Meet with the Contact Person who will document your complaint. (Interviews can be arranged at a location to suit you).



What happens then?

1. The Contact Person will send a report and recommendation to the Convener of the Resource Group and the appropriate Church authority.
2. On receiving the written complaint the Convener, in consultation with the church authority, may appoint two independent assessors, and will

ensure that appropriate victim and accused support persons are available.

3. Independent assessors will provide a written report with recommendations to the Church authority and Convener of Resource Group.
4. You will be informed of the results of any assessment. Where appropriate a meeting will be facilitated with the Church authority.

If you follow this process you can still contact the Police at any time.



Who is responsible for ensuring this process happens?

The Provincial Professional Standards Resource Group has been appointed by bishops and leaders of religious institutes in Queensland. This group meets regularly to review complaints and ensure that the agreed upon processes in Towards Healing are followed.