

STATEMENT FROM BISHOP HEENAN  
CATHOLIC BISHOP OF ROCKHAMPTON

I recognise the verdict that was given in the Court on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> September, finding Fr Reginald Durham guilty of rape. I express my deep regret that such harm has occurred and the pain it has caused to the victim. I would like to repeat the apology I made in May 1997, to all victims of abuse of any kind, suffered at Neerkol or any where in the Diocese of Rockhampton.

I personally regret any suggestion of a cover-up on the part of the Catholic Church. To the best of my knowledge, co-operation was given at all times to the police in their enquiries. There has not been, as far as I am aware, any cover up.

It would be inappropriate for me to comment further in any detail, as to what has happened, for there are other legal matters that have not yet been considered.