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## **M E M O R A N D U M**

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**DATE:** September 2, 1995  
**TO:** Bishops' Committee for Professional Standards  
**FROM:** Bishop Peter Connors, Secretary, Bishops' Committee for Professional Standards  
**RE:** Draft Document "Sexual Abuse by Priests and Religious: A Statement of Principles"  
**CC:** Mr Laurie Rolls.

The revision of the draft document prepared by Bishop Geoff Robinson is attached.

You are asked to note that there has been considerable redrafting since the earlier version, but Bishop Robinson believes it to be a far better document. All defensive material has been removed, only direct victims are referred to as victims, the word "addiction" has given way to "compulsion", the definitions have been totally rewritten, the section on offenders has concentrated on the dilemma which we face, the section on prevention has been expanded to include the ideas of Robert Grant and, above all, Bishop Robinson has tried to make the idea of healing central to the whole document. He has also tried to tone down the "emotional and declamatory journalese".

Bishop Robinson has set a deadline of 30 September 1995 for comments to reach him at Saint Joseph's Presbytery, 126 Liverpool Road, Enfield, N.S.W., 2136.