

Wednesday, 31 December 2003

Mr Christopher Morton  
 REDACTED

7 faxed to DA Notified  
 x x HLS 4/2/04

Dear Mr Morton,

my name is REDACTED I am writing to draw your attention to several issues concerning Brisbane Grammar School, my time as a student there and the conduct of the school's response to compensating victims of the student counsellor Kevin Lynch.

I was a student at Brisbane Grammar school during the period 1985 - 1989. During the period 1986 to 1988 I regularly attended counselling sessions with Mr Lynch. During this period I was regularly sexually abused by Mr Lynch. He would place me in an armchair, would have me remove my tie, and open my shirt and belt. Tantamount to hypnosis, his "relaxation" technique was to have me close my eyes and visualise the gradual ebbing of tension from different parts along my body in accordance with his suggestions. He instructed me to indicate to him with a single raised finger, when I felt that I was sufficiently relaxed to proceed to the next stage.

I have very distinct recollections of Mr Lynch massaging my chest with his hands, and reaching into my trousers to masturbate me. He would always come closer and closer, his breathing become louder and louder. Sometimes he would ask me to remove all my clothes before he would touch me. He would comment on how I smelled and whether I seemed happier this day or that.

Earlier this year I learned that in fact the school had received complaints about Mr Lynch's behaviour prior to my enrolment. I am extremely disappointed that a school with an excellent public reputation would choose to sacrifice the well being of children in order to protect its reputation. I have since embarked on a course of legal action against the school.

I have recently been advised that Brisbane Grammar School has declined to enter into negotiations for compensation for my rape. Given that the school has settled with many other past students since I began my legal action, I must wonder why my case is not to be considered by your organisation.

I have given a full statement describing this abuse to my lawyers, and have given them a detailed history of my experiences at Brisbane Grammar School, including abuse by other members of the school's teaching staff. For example, while I was in Grade 8 in 1985, I had the misfortune to have Physical Education classes with Mr REDACTED. On many occasions he would single boys out and demand to know what sports we played. If we were not involved in the school's rugby teams he would have us stand in front of the class whilst he called us "fags" or "poofers". Other staff such as REDACTED watched and never intervened.

I have struggled with the consequences of Kevin Lynch's abuse for over 15 years, suffering a variety of physical and especially emotional difficulties. Is it possible that you and your colleagues are unconvinced that I was abused by Mr Lynch? Why then do you refuse to provide the same recognition and resources to me that have been granted to other victims of the school which you govern?

I would like to invite you to write to me and explain the school's position on this matter. Please tell me that it is not simply a matter of legal strategy and odds.

Sincerely,

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