

**DRAFT LETTER TO OLD BOYS OF 75-88**

I feel we owe it to all who were at School while Kevin Lynch was there to give you a personal overview of the School's response to allegations raised recently in the media concerning his behaviour.

First and foremost, we have been shocked to hear these allegations, and have publicly expressed great sorrow and regret.

Contrary to the impression given by the Courier Mail in its reporting, the School was quick to investigate, willing to listen and sincere in its expression of regret. The School's leaders, Board and Headmaster accept, and have publicly acknowledged, the School's moral responsibility for the welfare of all students, past and present, and has offered to arrange counselling for those who request it.

Looking ahead, it is important to learn from what we have heard. In our discussions with experts since these allegations surfaced, we have been told again and again that it is not unusual for boys to remain silent about abuse, and that detection of abuse is often difficult because of this "culture of silence".

The School already has in place formal policies and procedures on sexual harassment, bullying and discrimination. Professor Barry Nurcombe, a world expert in this field, is leading a review of current best practice which will examine recent learning in the area with a view to further improving what we think are already high quality policies and procedures at Grammar.

Since the allegations concerning Mr Lynch were raised in the media, many former students have contacted us to express their support for the School, many recounting positive experiences here and stating how well the School prepared them for life. We hope and believe that has been the experience of the overwhelming majority of our students. We hope that any changes brought about by our current review will help us as a School community to achieve an even higher standard.

We welcome any thoughts you may have, and we would love to see you back to have a look at Grammar today. We hope and expect you will be pleased and proud of it.

Yours sincerely