

**Michael Taylor**

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**From:** Saved by Windows Internet Explorer 9  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 3 December 2014 6:49 PM  
**Subject:** Gmail - Re; your questions



Bhakti Manning &lt;REDACTED&gt;

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**Re; your questions**

1 message

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**Bhakti Manning** <REDACTED>  
To: REDACTED

Tue, Mar 18, 2014 at 9:35 AM

Hi Vedanta,

I wrote to the Satyananda Yoga teachers out of concern for the impact that the re-raising of this issue could have upon their reputations and livelihoods. I am not a registered yoga teacher. However, I have had a long association with yoga through Satyananda Ashram and Bihar School of Yoga since 1974. I was aware that many of the current teachers would have no knowledge of the history, and thus would, in a sense, be innocent victims themselves if this all blows up as a result of the Royal Commission. There have been enough people hurt already. In writing to you, I am just hoping to make you aware of the possibility that there may be adverse publicity, which in turn may impact on people teaching under the "Satyananda Yoga" name. That way, you are in a position of having prior knowledge and have time to think about and prepare for that possibility.

I am not currently in a position to offer assistance in this process myself. But I am sure that there are others, possibly within the Satyananda Yoga Teachers Association itself, who may be able to offer any assistance the Ashram management may need.

It is not really a matter of personal views and hopes, but rather a matter of societal expectations about restorative justice for victims of such abuse that is important here. I am sure that the ashram having issued the apology, will now be looking at what further steps need to be taken in order to show the wider Australian society that it is truly sorry. If such steps are initiated prior to any Royal Commission enquiry into the Ashram, then it will reflect better on the Ashram and lessen the impact on those currently involved. It is for that reason that I suggested that members of the SYTA may be able to assist in this process, as, in a sense, the time frame for taking action prior to any Royal Commission hearings is probably only a matter of a few months at the most.

Even if the Ashram itself does not feel the need to take any further action yet, it would reflect well on the Satyananda Yoga Teachers Association membership if its members were shown to have been calling for such action prior to any hearings.

It is important that this time round, the response is embracing, compassionate and genuine. This is important as it will assist the survivors of the abuse to heal. It will also show to the wider public that those currently managing or associating themselves with the Ashram have a full understanding of the evilness of such behaviour. This will put the Ashram and the wider "Satyananda" family in a position where their own

healing will be swifter and more complete.

It is a difficult situation, and a very sorry time for all concerned.

Regards

Bhakti