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From: Yossi <REDACTED>
 Subject: Re: Rabbi Yosef Feldman and the Australian Jewish News
 Date: 13 August 2011 11:06:16 PM AEST
 To: yosef.feldman <REDACTED>
 Cc: Rabbi Klugant <rabi@jewishcare.org.au>, Zeddy Lawrence <ZLawrence@jewishnews.net.au>, Rod Kenning <RKenning@jewishnews.net.au>, Rabbi Mordechai Gutnick <REDACTED>, Yossi Aron <yaron@jewishnews.net.au>

Dear All

I don't have a normal sized computer with internet at home as we (my wife and myself) don't want our children to be abused by the internet...therefore I thought to respond on Sunday but meanwhile as the issue arose once again in my Shule today and actually quite strongly with one member demanding an explanation for an anonymous email the Shulle received and some members demanding answers including why I shouldn't be demanding a proper apology, even as their Rabbi for their sake, I feel I must write further re this issue asap already this evening from my iPhone.

Firstly my Shule and R Freilich received this anonymous email it seems from one Rabbi who claims to have been abused and it seems leaked my emails to the AJN. This "rabbi" also tried to make the inference in the email that I hold that only proper intercourse is a problem and otherwise it's OK and one doesn't need to go to the police. Once again without going into detail he didn't translate the Hebrew words which totally negates that inference as I did in my Shule today and in our meeting. We and many have now thought that this anonymous person is a real troublemaker and has an issue with the Feldmans or myself and is a liar, was never abused and was the source of the leak to the AJN. I challenge Zeddy to tell Rod Kenning and Bob Magid if there was a real known name to the complainer and leaker.

In fact the notion that R Klugant mentioned that the publicity was possibly good for victims is something that I and most Rabbis in Sydney totally reject. In fact they are also appalled that the AJN this week (Zeddy and Josh) were about to do a defamatory article re someone else at the Yeshiva (Rabbi Tayar) and the only way this was averted was with a blackmailed article how the AJN articles were good for victims. I and we would like to see one genuine victim that has come forward because of the articles. I was actually prompted to start writing because I felt that the hype has been causing phony attention seekers to come forward like Menny Waks and this should be stopped. Many rabbis were furious by this Yeshiva blackmail and this furthered the decision to postpone the meeting with Bob Magid to decide a united approach.

With regard to a rectification taking into account my family's feelings including my father, most Rabbis feelings, Yeshiva's members feelings, my Shule members feeling and lastly many prominent members of the community's feelings that 1) it set the Jewish people in a very bad light and promoted anti semitism as is also evident from comments on many sites 2) Since when is the AJN a decider on a Rabbi amongst Rabbis to resign? (initially there was Rabbi Freilich who may have said so after being misled by the AJN (according to what he told me) that he thought that I had given a personal statement to the AJN against his ORA statement that we should cover up but once he found out that that wasn't true he changed and that's reflected with the paper being different than the online edition as was mentioned at the meeting)

And also since I am a person who is always interested in a win win situation which is why I proposed an ambiguous apology to make it easier for Zeddy and the AJN which really needs to be clarified how, and what was really meant by myself which RMSK didn't realize was not that firstly I apologize and another further point is that the AJN should do an ambiguous apology but as I said in the meeting that we're all in it together meaning that the apologies are from both of us, the AJN for misrepresenting me and myself for expanding such a sensitive discussion to so many Rabbis but I really do need the AJN to acknowledge that I was misrepresented as I really need my name cleared for now as I also represent my family, Rabbis, Yeshiva, Southern Sydney Synagouge etc. and everyone of them is demanding I do so based on what people have an impression of myself from what they read in paper and on the Internet for now and the future...

Also to further my idea of a rectification I would also like to explain why I stepped aside. Since people view the AJN as a Torah and believe everything to be totally true once the AJN came out with their view about me one Shule board that Yair Miller (head of BOD) is connected to demanded that either he resigns from the Council or I must resign. I am very friendly with that Rabbi and I didn't want to cause him any trouble so we decided that I step aside until I clear my name which btw is another reason why I need that the AJN acknowledges that they misrepresented me as this has been publicized, and we decided there will be no President and I'll remain on the executive and this will hopefully, if the AJN does the right thing, be short term. Yair Miller couldn't control himself and stated what he stated re my stepping aside which once again was an untruth.

I would also like to comment that this that Zeddy mentioned that he didn't get more than the few letters printed in my support I would like to comment that in the scandal with his brother I was sent at least 10 letters that people sent but Zeddy only printed one. Many people told me that they don't want to waste time as the AJN has clearly an agenda against me and they won't print them anyway besides that many are scared that the AJN may tamper with their letter and may make them look like supporting covering up paedophilia like they did with me. Zeddy I challenge you that if you tell me you'll print every letter you receive in its entirety I can arrange at least 100 letters from different people, just let me know. I can just tell you as a fact that hundreds of people and tens of Rabbis all that I know of are fed up with the AJN as the Council's statement quoted by the Sydney Morning Herald that its become a cheap tabloid and many are now turning to Homodia, jwire and tens of people attended a meeting to start a new paper and I know of organizations that are thinking of pulling their adds or have already pulled and planning to go elsewhere...

Based on all of the above I had seen that Rod Kenning really understood and Zeddy I hope now understands what should be arranged on this week's front cover for us to move forward together for the benefit of us all and for the benefit of the whole Jewish community...

This is enough for me for tonight. I am meanwhile not forwarding this email even as bcc to anyone in the hope that Zeddy will do the right thing for this week as time is of the essence for myself and I believe even for the AJN as above and if this isn't rectified this week I'll reconsider my options after taking advice from all the stakeholders...I reserve my right to discuss with Bob Magid who I haven't spoken to as yet if I don't feel by the end of Monday as RMSK mentioned, the issue will be addressed. I plan to now forward in 2 different emails to this forum what I sent Zeddy and Josh on Wednesday morning and my dialogue with Rob Zukerman for everyone's information. I also might continue further tomorrow with some further points as I really do have more points to mention...

Meanwhile Good night and week to all!

Yosef Feldman

On 12/08/2011, at 4:16 PM, yosef feldman <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Dear All

I really haven't had time until now to comment on R Kluwgant's email even though I would like to but I do plan to on Sunday. For now I would just like to say that I appreciate everyone's time and willingness to deal with the issue. I must say that the Sydney Rabbis are still furious with the AJN (besides one of them who is just angry) and this is why the meeting with Bob Magid was postponed to decide further the approach and they're demanding from myself to take a tougher approach. Why I had to step aside I'll explain on Sunday. Just one point that Zeddy ridiculed my email of Wednesday that the English wasn't so good...It's interesting that *that* email he (you) didn't take seriously whereas all the rest he did. In truth both emails weren't for public consumption, the Rabbis emails were for Rabbis and Josh and Zeddy's were for them. I think it was pretty clear for yourselves what I was meaning as the ones for the Rabbis were for them. Anyway I hope that Zeddy (you) has the good sense to arrange a rectification for this week even without my involvement before this goes negatively further.. I hope to elaborate on Sunday...

Gut Shabbos to all!

On Thu, Aug 11, 2011 at 6:21 PM, Rabbi Kluwgant <rabbi@jewishcare.org.au> wrote:

Dear All

Thank you so much for meeting today. It was encouraging to see that even in situations as difficult and diabolical as this one, we can come together and work towards resolving disputes.

I know it is a difficult topic, and there was lots of emotion and conviction attached. At the end of it all, it was a dignified – open and honest discussion. Thank you all - for that.

I look forward to hearing from Zeddy/Rod on or before Monday.

Please keep the matters we discussed confidential, and also keep in mind that a positive outcome here is one for the whole community.

The matters discussed and options to be considered included:

- A positive story re outcomes – in galvanising the religious leadership in Aussie in relation to a common and well-articulated position on this issue
- Letter of Apology from RYF re impact of the discussion
- Letter from ORA's president in support of RYF on the basis of this letter
- Acknowledgement/apology of AJN re over?-sensationalism
- 'Ambiguous apology' re the way the comments and issues were presented
- Confirming an ongoing positive relationship between AJN and RYF
- Photo on front page of RYF and ZL hugging J

With blessings and in friendship

(Rabbi) Meir Shlomo

Rabbi Kluwgant

General Manager

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