

BQQ

REDACTED

Dr Lennox
Brisbane Grammar School
Gregory Terrace
Brisbane QLD 4000

Dr Lennox,

I, BQQ hereby state that I will not take legal action against the current administration of Brisbane Grammar School, if I receive a personal apology for the abuse I suffered at the hands of the then school counselor Mr. Kevin Lynch. I would also like an apology regarding the bullying suffered from certain boarding house prefects, who I will not name despite knowing exactly who they are. Whether this apology is from yourself or the then Master in Charge Mr. Ron Cochrane makes no difference to me.

The abuse from Mr. Kevin Lynch took the form of inappropriate touching of my body, relaxation exercises that involved being forced to close my eyes and suck my thumb whilst placing my other hand on my penis. At all times I was continually instructed to keep my eyes closed for the duration of the exercise. On one occasion I distinctly remember opening my eyes as the exercises was finishing to see Mr. Lynch readjusting his own trouser fly and belt. These supposed relaxation exercises were used on me from 1983 to my final year in 1986.

Whilst only a boarder for one year in 2nd form in 1982, the bullying suffered by myself and the other younger students from House Prefects was relentless. For me this took the form of being hung out of the top floor window of the junior house by my ankles by only one prefect for smirking during a midnight full dress dormitory inspection. From that window it was four floors to ground level. Other bullying consisted of being held down and punched in the bicep or thigh for whatever reason the prefects made up and being bailed up and threatened with the same treatment at my food locker if I did not hand over its contents. During swimming season I was constantly punched on arrival at the dinning hall for being late for breakfast despite explaining I had been at swimming training and despite the reassurance of the then Master in Charge of swimming Mr. Dedrick, who was also a House Master, that it was allowable for swimmers to attend late breakfasts. I, along with other students were shut in our clothes lockers for varying amounts of time for a number of prefects and senior students amusement. All of this activity was either ignored or condoned by the majority of the House Masters.

For me this has resulted in long term psychological problems including anxiety, aggression, depression, an authority resentment, fear of seeking help as a result of being ashamed to explain the details, alcoholism and drug addiction.

Whilst I am willing to take responsibility for my own actions in getting involved with trying alcohol and drugs initially, the addiction is mainly due to using these substances to hide from the past. It has also been a very long, expensive and embarrassing experience to sort these problems out with still very little success. This is despite no longer drinking or using illegal drugs.

All I want is acceptance of the fact that this really did happen to me and I'm sure many other boys, and an apology. I have no intention of taking legal action against the school as this will only take funds away for the development of current and future students. Myself and my partner are due to have a child in a couple of months and should that child be a boy I will have no hesitation in sending him to what I believe is otherwise not only a changed but fantastic school. Finally I believe both my parents, particularly my mother who tirelessly raised so much money for the school as President of the Ladies Auxiliary, deserve an apology as well. You know how and where to contact myself and my parents.

Yours Sincerely,

BQQ