

REDACTED

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Phone/Fax REDACTED

E-mail REDACTED

8th March 2001

Dear Archbishop Rush

As the cases against Father Reg Durham will not be proceeding through the courts, I now believe I can write to you.

I would like you to know that the actions you took after REDACTED's funeral at Coolangatta, was one of the most devastating things that has ever happened to me. To this day, I find it terribly hard to believe that you could not communicate with me directly but only through your solicitors.

You know how much I have loved and admired you over the years. You have always been a person to whom I looked up to, one whom I have turned to on many occasions for advice and prayer. To have you turn away from me was ever so painful and humiliating.

I thank my God that I did not take the car over Point Danger the day I received your solicitor's letter. That was the last straw. Can you begin to imagine just how much pain has been associated with the years of abuse I suffered at the hands of Reg Durham? Having to live a lie so as not to hurt my Mum and Dad. No one can understand the feelings of guilt, shame, anger and resentment that I have had to carry with me.

Please know that at NO time did I ever blame you for not doing anything about Reg. I said in my statement to the Police, that YOU were the FIRST person in church authority that I told. No more, no less.

I am sorry if this letter offends you, but I do need and want you to know that I hope and pray that you would act differently next time round. I am sure Jesus would be horrified at the way His Church Leaders have handled this horrid sordid mess.

May our God bless you and give you peace. Let us pray for each other.

Yours sincerely,

AYB