

24 APR 2007  
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The Anglican Church of Australia  
Archbishop Peter Jensen  
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Richard 'Tommy' Campion  
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Church of England North Coast Children's Home

**Dear Archbishop Jensen**

**Sunday April 22, 2007**

I am responding to your letter dated April 12, 2007 in reference to the Church of England North Coast Children's Home

Talking to the media, you have often said, "If anyone has been abused in any way in an Anglican Home, then please come forward ...".

Archbishop, you have been asked questions of abuse by the media time and time again, and that is usually the answer you give. It is straight forward – but is it true.

You have also said: "I want victims to have confidence that an allegation that they make of sexual abuse will be treated thoroughly and properly and expediently as we can. My concern is for victims who might get the impression that nothing has changed from the bad old days and might not come forward as a result of that and nothing can be further from the truth".

**Archbishop, you have got to be kidding.**

I came forward to seek closure and complete compensation from the Anglican Church Diocese of Grafton and I was treated with contempt. I came forward to seek justice and I was ridiculed and bullied by Reverend Pat Comben and Reverend Pat Comben was the person who treated me with contempt.

Archbishop, you need to hear of Mr. Comben's attitude towards the victims of abuse. You would not believe it. It was a display of pig-headed superiority. This man is ruining the name of the Anglican Church.

However, in a polite letter to me from Reverend Pat Comben, dated September 2, 2005 he wrote: "While the Bishop is presently away I have no hesitation in speaking on behalf of the Diocese in saying that we will do all that we can to assist you to move beyond the pain that was caused in an Anglican place that should have been safe, but which was clearly not".

**That statement was a lie, so why would I return to the Diocese of Grafton for help.**

In that polite letter on September 2, 2005, Mr Comben went on to say: "There seems little more that I can say, I know that Anglican prayers may at this point seem hollow and hypocritical but please be assured that many good people will be trying to support you. Their thoughts, prayers and deeds will seek to show you the love of Christ".

**That statement was about as sincere as a cat explaining to a mouse he wouldn't eat him if he came out from behind the book shelf with his hands up.**

Archbishop, I have done what you say I should do, and that is to come forward for help. It didn't work out with Comben, so that's why I am going to a person who is able to help me, and that is your good self.

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Mr Comben is a terribly nasty and conceited man and I can not trust him to be involved in what I need to achieve, so, Archbishop Peter Jensen, once again, I am turning to you.

I was abused for close to 12 years in an Anglican Home and for the life of me I can not see how anyone in a position such as yours, can ignore me now that I have asked for help – once again. You are a man of God and by all standards you should not ignore my plea.

The word jurisdiction has been spoke about time and time again and I feel it is a lame excuse for not getting involved in my situation, and I will not accept that. I repeat, I will not accept that.

Archbishop Jensen, you cannot dismiss the experiences and pain of individuals that the Anglican Church has harmed in the past.

You should never walk away from a person in need. It will stay in your mind for the rest of your life. Surely you would not do that nor would you want that? Where is your respect for me?

What are the consequences if you get involved with me? Will you be committing a serious crime?

In a letter to me from Reverend Pat Comben from the Anglican Church Grafton Diocese, dated September 2, 2005, he wrote, "Your letter (of complaint) was written to the Sydney address of the Diocese of Sydney which has the professional staff which generally respond on behalf of this Diocese in matters such as this and will work with you towards a better future".

In the same letter, Reverend Comben said: "Making contact with Sydney should see things move quickly. If you have any difficulties in that regard please do not hesitate to telephone me directly, my home telephone number is 02 6642 3216".

There it is Archbishop, I have all of Mr. Comben's wise words in my file. Mr. Comben gave me respect and direction. I was directed to your office, headlong into the kindness Mr. Comben said you would offer.

Mr Comben's letter clearly shows that you are able to help me and the jurisdiction is not a problem. I am standing within your reach. I am waiting. In that lovely letter Mr Comben also gave me two phone numbers within the Diocese of Sydney, including a 1800 number. It was all go!

**Anyone reading that letter, would have to agree there is no problem with jurisdiction.**

God almighty Archbishop, get down off your damn high-horse and put a stop to all the nonsense about jurisdiction. You all need to get out into the 'real world' and fight for the rights of people who was abused in an Anglican Home. You have to fight for the rights of every person. You must realise we are all in this together. Deary dear, this is not an impossible feat.

The seemingly precious line that segregates each Anglican Church, needs to be erased forever.

**Victim of Abuse Richard 'Tommy' Campion, once said:** A nice woman who lives in Sydney, goes on a holiday to Grafton. On a beautiful warm Sunday morning, the nice woman walks to the Grafton Anglican Church. She is carrying a hefty cheque to put on the Church plate to help the needy. As the nice woman attempts to walk through the front door of the Church, an irate minister darts madly out from behind a pillar, puts his hand out and stops the nice woman.

"Stop! Halt!, the minister yelled, startling the small but dedicated Grafton congregation sitting behind him.

"Oh, what's going on Reverend?" the nice woman asked.

"You can't come in here. Go away", the minister bleated.

"I can't - why not," the nice woman asked hesitantly.

"Because you're in the wrong bloody jurisdiction. You should know that. You're from Sydney," he boomed

"But, I came here to pray -and I have money to put on the plate," the nice woman said anxiously, tears rolling down her nice cheeks as she pulled the cheque from her handbag.

"Well lady, I'll have that, gimme that money! Now get out and go to your own jurisdiction. I don't want to see you in here again. You know the rules," the minister snarled, as he shoved her out the door.

"I am going to see the Archbishop when I get back to Sydney," the distressed nice lady said as she struggled to her feet. "I don't like the way I'm being treated. This is outrageous."

"Ha, ha, ha, that is so funny," the minister said turning to the congregation. "Did you hear that ladies and gentlemen, the nice lady is going to see the Archbishop in Sydney, ho, ha, ho, what a joke."

The small congregation, who were all in the Grafton jurisdiction, fall to the floor laughing, their hands clutching their stomachs with glee, happy that they were in the correct jurisdiction.

Mr. Selden, wrote of you: "This does not mean that the Diocese as a whole, and in particular the Archbishop, can tell the Diocese of Grafton what to do".

Archbishop, I do not want you to tell the Diocese of Grafton, what to do. I would like you to help me to fathom out the disastrous events that have occurred during the compensation claim of 41 victims who lived at the Church of England North Coast Children's Home. It has been a debacle. I would like you to tell me what to do. I would like your help.

There are three horribly scarred victims, one being myself, who refuses to accept what was offered to them by the Anglican Church Diocese of Grafton. What was offered is a total disgrace and a disfigurement on the Anglican Church as a whole. Looking at all what has happened, it would have to show how greedy the Anglican Church in Grafton is, and how they only want to look after themselves.

**Hetty Johnston, Founder and Executive Director of Bravehearts once said:** Imagine a child walking down a path, a man jumps out of the bushes and beats the child. Does that child have anything to be ashamed of? Is that child guilty of anything? Should we do everything we can to help that child?"

Now imagine the same child walking down the same path. The same man jumps out from the bushes, but instead of beating the child, he sexually assaults him. Does that child have anything to be ashamed of? Is that child guilty of anything? Should you do everything we can to help that child?

Archbishop, there has been monumental problems with this compensation claim and the files needs to be looked into by someone with a better knowledge of abused victim's, than Reverend Pat Comben is.

Reverend Pat Comben should not have been put in charge of such a serious situation - he has shattered many peoples lives without a care in the world..

When my abuse came to light, when I was alone, frightened, Mr Comben was like tea and biscuits. (I have all his joyous letters in my files). However, when Mr. Comben found out that I would not abandon others who were abused in the same Home, and when he knew more victims would come forward, his position changed like a gale-force wind and he turned into an angry and shitty man, not the kind man I thought I knew, or anyone would have expected.

For the love of Pete, I can't understand the change!! Because if Mr. Comben is a man of God he should have been helping me to find the abuse victims, and he should have been supporting the abused victims with the compensation, but no, he didn't, he fought them – and he fought them back with wrath.

Its very sad isn't it Archbishop, but I suppose you'd have to be there.

I look forward to meeting or talking with you to discuss my pain. We have a lot to chat about. Maybe we can change a few things for the future and the good of the Anglican Church.

Kind regards,



Richard 'Tommy' Champion.

c.c: Jenni Woodhouse – Anglican Church Sydney

c.c: Bravehearts

c.c. Archbishop and Primate Phillip Aspinall

c.c: CA

c.c: The Australian

c.c: Ray Hadley