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The Anglican Church Diocese of Grafton
The Right Reverend Keith Slater
PO Box 4
Grafton

Richard 'Tommy' Campion
REDACTED

Dear Bishop

30 July 2007

I respond to your letter date 10, July 2007 which I feel is the most caring of the many I have received from the Anglican Church. I accept it with approval.

Unlike others, you have been able to suspend your judgment and step into my world and my 12 years of abuse and I thank you for that also.

Most of the viciousness I suffered in the Children's Home is written in my Statutory Declaration which would be in the files of the Anglican Church Diocese of Grafton, so I do not have to explain that again.

To this day, I have carried on my body visual proof of the brutality I lived under. I believe at times, I was fortunate to have survived. I am blessed that I did not die.

My mental state has been documented by a psychiatrist in Brisbane, details of which the Anglican Church Diocese of Grafton would have in their files, so there is no need for me to explain that either, although it has somewhat diminished since then.

Due to my brutal but 'humble' up-bringing in the Children's Home, these days, I possess few belongings - not even a television, a decent suit, a wardrobe, a toaster or even an iron - the normal trappings that most people want or need in their lives. They are not important - living with the basics is still installed in my mind from those days in the Children's Home - but that's my problem, not yours.

It is my daughter REDAC and my sister CA, who are my belongings and even they really don't know how humbly I live. To coin a phrase, there are people worse off than I - people who do not have what I do, that being a daughter and sister.

Bishop, you asked what would be helpful for me to move on from these things of the past.

The things that you mentioned of the past, happened while I was living in the North Coast Children's Home, a place where I was subjected to physical, sexual and psychological assaults, perpetrated against me by those who worked at the home.

The truth of the matter is I feel; no matter what price you put on physical and emotional scarring - what is it that will get rid of it? I don't see that any amount of money would ease the pain, however, in reality, there has been 12 years of abuse, and there have been all those years of struggle since.

I need to get my life back on track; to have more in-depth professional therapy and for that to happen I need to be fairly compensated for my abuse so I can be independent of the Anglican Church.

Apart from the counselling which the Anglican Church Diocese of Grafton provides for me now, and which I need, I would like to be acknowledged for the 12 years of abuse I suffered while I lived in the Children's Home.

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(Bishop, I believe you should look at CA's and my compensation claims as separate situation. We both went through hell, but in different ways, some occurrences more painful and brutal and fearful than others).

Compensation in this country involves, mainly, a monetary sum. This is accepted the world over, from a stubbed toe to a broken promise. Therefore those whose life was moulded on the teachings and deliverance of their brutality, physiological and physical and predatory sexual abuse, should expect the utmost compassion and a fair compensation and a just hearing with due respect.

With that in mind I wish to be compensated to the highest amount allowable in the Pastoral Care and Assistance Package – which I believe to be \$75,000.00. This will enable me to cover my own counselling and perhaps start a new life.

I have been sent the Pastoral Care and Assistance Package from Sydney.

Time is rushing by and there is much more that I could write but I feel I have summed it up. I look forward to your reply.

Kind regards,



Richard 'Tommy' Champion

c.c: Jenni Woodhouse