

RC59

The Anglican Church Diocese of Brisbane
Archbishop Phillip Aspinall - Primate of Australia
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Brisbane QLD 4001

Richard 'Tommy' Campion

REDACTED

FILE COPY

Dear Archbishop

January 14, 2008

Church of England North Coast Children's Home

As Bishop Keith Slater from the Diocese of Grafton is away on pilgrimage, I have no one to turn too. Now, I am asking you for help.

On May 20, 2007 on behalf of CD [redacted], I posted a letter of complaint of abuse to Bishop Keith Slater and Ms. Jenni Woodhouse of the Diocese of Sydney. It is now 2008 and CD [redacted] has had no response.

CD [redacted] called me in anguish on Monday January 14, 2008. This is what eventuated after we hung up.

I phoned the office of Phillip Selden of the Diocese of Sydney on January 14, 2008 and was told that Ms Jenni Woodhouse had forwarded her letter of complaint through to Bishop Keith Slater in Grafton. So in actual fact, Bishop Keith Slater would have received two complaints of abuse concerning CD [redacted]. In that situation, I cannot see how he wouldn't have at least one. It would not be possible for Bishop Slater to loose two.

Even though I was treated nicely by the diocese office in Sydney my pleas for help were dismissed. I could not believe they were not prepared to assist me with something as serious as child abuse. I painstakingly explained the extent of CD [redacted] abuse to the office of Phillip Selden – but that didn't make any difference. Again I was told they couldn't do any thing. I suppose it was getting late in the day and it was stinking hot and muggy and the tennis was on... well.

CD [redacted] was abused for many years in the Church of England North Coast Children's Home in Lismore, New South Wales by Anglican Church carers and other children in their care. He witnessed a gang rape on a young girl and was threaten with violence if he 'dobbed'. Also in the home and he was subjected to horrific sexual abuse – ect.

I phoned Bishop Keith Slater's office and Mary Elliott answered. (Mary is the PA to Keith Slater) Although she was nice she said there was nothing they could do because Bishop Slater was on pilgrimage. She said she could not remember the complaint from CD [redacted] (It had strictly confidential on the envelope so she would not have seen it). It was than we decided that I would not talk to Diocese Registrar, Pat Comben, because of his pig-headedness, lies and arrogance towards abused children in the past. Again I was told there was nothing they could do. I explained CD [redacted] abuse in the Children's Home – to no avail. In desperation I suggested a phone call or a letter to CD [redacted] - today. I was told by Ms. Elliott that she would try and look for the file and would call me back that day. I never heard a peep.

Eight months has gone by and CD [redacted] has not heard a peep from the Anglican Church Diocese of Grafton nor the Anglican Church Diocese of Sydney. It is obvious they don't give a damn. What a bloody shame.

It is a shocking condemnation on the Anglican Church, especially when they have spread the message throughout the media encouraging all who were abused in an Anglican home, to come forward and be heard.

Archbishop Aspinall, forget your jurisdiction 'rules' and please help CD [redacted] before it is too late.

Kind regards,

Richard 'Tommy' Campion