

RCBO

Anglican Church Grafton Diocese
The Venerable Greg Ezzy
P.O. Box 4
Grafton
NSW 2460



Richard "Tommy" Campion
REDACTED

August 3, 2008

Dear Mr. Ezzy

Church of England North Coast Children's Home (CENCCH) (Photo facts on second page)

I reply to your letter of July 29, 2008.

If I write the words legal or legally it does not mean lawyers are involved. And just because something is deemed to be legal, bloody lawyers, as nice as they are when they are asleep, it does not mean I have much time for them perse.

When I wrote "... St. Andrew's Anglican Church legally had the duty of care for the children in the Church of England North Coast Children's Home" I was referring that a document obtained from Freedom of Information was a legal document because it was a Government document. It had nothing whatsoever to do with lawyers.

This letter and others I may write have the blessing of my dear sister, [CA], who spent eight years in the hell-home with me. Collectively, we lived there for 22 years. As those fearful years came to an end [CA] and I braced ourselves for life ahead - then we faded - then we called out for help. Have a look at us now. What in the bloody hell is going on? Why won't the Church listen? What are they afraid of?

In cases such as this the Anglican Church needs to learn about humanity, as well as preach it.

* I have given Bishop Slater volumes of information pointing to the Anglican Church as having the responsibility for the children who lived in the Church of England North Coast Children's Home in Lismore, NSW.

It is my honest view and it can be resolved.

It is the honest view of my sister, [CA], who suffered in her own terrifying quite way.

It is the honest view of Mr. Tony Madden, who for 20 years was manager of DOCS in Lismore - and in that time worked closely with the Children's Home.

It is the honest view of two other former DOCS managers who also worked in the Lismore office and were associated with the Children's home.

It is also the honest wording of a Government document obtained from Freedom of Information stating that the Anglican Church held the licence to run the Children's Home therefore giving them the responsibility for the care of the children in the Anglican Home.



No Mr. Ezzy, Bishop Slater and I are not "looking at the same facts with two different sets of glasses". We are looking at the true facts but there are people amongst us who care not to admit they have made a mistake.

Again, it must be understood the decision Bishop Slater received from church lawyers (and Pat Comben) has nought to do with what I have been explaining to him. And for the love of my sister, I cannot understand "why the Bishop is required by the church to accept eminent legal advice" when it is damn well wrong – and is proved wrong. That is a load of old cobbles. If he hasn't by now, which I hope he has, I ask the good Bishop to drop that bloody ridiculous advice and get on with the problem at hand.

I acknowledge the postscript where you wrote: "If we put aside the legal niceties (and agree to differ on some subjects) what might allow you to see closure on this matter?" **This is what I would like to happen.**

I would require a personal and sincere apology showing total recognition for the abuse I suffered.

I would require the original support package to be reinstated. The figure offered is unreasonable. (I had 14 years at the Anglican Home and at least 12 of them were abusive. I have many years left to live and I am guaranteed to have psychological problems for the rest of my days on this Earth – and there's lot more).

I would require the Deed of Release to be restructured to suit abused victims more so that the Church. (Bishop Slater has had parts of the Deed of Release rewritten. With the Bishop's consent I am now having it reviewed).

Churches are held in positions of respect and authority by the community and as such need to give clear messages of uncompromising support for the survivors of child abuse; in addition ensuring that the protection and safety of children above and beyond all else. It must carry through the life of those children. That is the way of a church.

Regards,

Richard "Tommy" Campion

c.c: Bishop Keith Slater

P.S. * I have sent a letter (dated July 27, 2008) to Bishop Slater requesting a meeting as soon as possible. A soft and gentle face to face meeting would do wonders for the heart.

* I believe my next letter will advise you more of my needs. I will have it to you in a few days.

Photo Facts: The Church of England North Coast Children's Home sign stood proudly near the front entrance. It was there when I arrived at the Home in 1949 and when I left in 1962/63. It was still there when I left Lismore in 1970. It was still there in 1977 when the above photo was taken. The sign was still standing in the early 80's – yet it was removed when the Anglican home ceased to operate as a "shelter" for children. The Anglican Church denies they had the duty of care for the children and that is a lie. That lie is a sin against God and all those who were abused in it. In my days it was a hell-hole full of hatred and bloody brutal bashings. In a letter in 2005, Anglican Church Grafton Diocesan Registrar, Pat Comben, wrote, "It was an Anglican place that should have been safe, but which was clearly not".