



BISHOP OF THE ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF GRAFTON

Tuesday, 10 July 2007

Mr Richard Campion

REDACTED

Dear Richard and CA [redacted],

As agreed I am making contact through you, Richard; but in essence this letter is to both of you, CA [redacted] and Richard.

Thank you for the opportunity to meet with you last week, to hear some of your story, and to try to understand something of the pain of your experience at North Coast Children's Home. I valued the way in which you gently and yet forcefully shared your stories and your particular feelings and questions, recognising that I did not cause these things to happen to you whilst at the Home but that I happen to be the bishop with whom you have been able to share your story.

Our meeting has given me cause for much reflection since our conversation. The one question which I shared with you at the time as a response to your story, and which has continued to come back to me again and again is:
"What can be done to help you move past this pain and distress?"

I recognise that a part of that moving on can be in the telling of one's story. Sometimes in the telling of our distress to the appropriate person we actually begin the journey to healing and wholeness - we begin to let go of the things of the past and stop allowing these things to control our present being and thinking.

But the question keeps coming back to me. So in writing now I want to keep our channels of communication open and to ask you to assist me in answering the question. The question that I am asking is out of care for you both. What would be helpful for you to move on from these things of the past? I would value your considered response to this question.

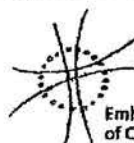
I recognise from our conversation that there were a number of things which you asked me to consider further, and I think your response to my question would help me in that process.

With best wishes and blessings,

K Slater

The Right Reverend Keith Slater
Bishop of the Diocese of Grafton

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