



Anglican Church of Australia
The Most Reverend Dr. Phillip Aspinall - Primate
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Brisbane
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September 12, 2007

Church of England North Coast Children's Home

I am writing to you to register my absolute disgust and sadness at the intimidating, manipulative response from the Bishop of Grafton to an invitation to address his questions.

He has no right to question my integrity and suggest my quest for resolution and justice for the abusive life defining existence forced on me in my growing years could be seen as a betrayal, that is blatant intimidation. (I have enclosed that letter which is dated August 14, 2007)

We should be prepared for the low tactics used over and over in this quest, from 'poison pen' letters, nasty phone calls, to blatant manipulation of the truth.

I will not have anyone, no matter what collar they wear, attempt to intimidate me in this underhanded manner and then go on to suggest I accept a package and not honour my legal obligations. I ask who's moral values are in question.

The suggestion; had this not been placed in legal hands the outcome could have concluded in a different manner to me is a sad reflection on the churches attitude and fly's in the face of democracy.

Consider if you will: Legal assistance is engaged because you do not have the required ability to have your case acknowledged with sincerity and to make sure you are at least get a hearing that is supposed to be truthful.

This particular action at all times was on individual action. It was not a class individual action. It was presented as a group but was always up to each person to make their own choice on the outcome. So contrary to the Bishops assumption this is in no way concluded for me. Nothing has been addressed.

We were initially told we would be present for mediation. After much delay and avoidance it was scheduled and over. The long awaited face to face meeting didn't happen. I am of the belief had we been present we would not have been treated with such contempt.

I would like to suggest to you and all leaders of the respective dioceses that it would be wise to refrain from public statements inviting people who were abused in your institutions to come forward - that the churches attitude has changed and a more enlightened process is in place. Unfortunately nothing has changed.

It was not in place for us and not demonstrated as truth during our process.

For us who were abused in amoral and unlawful practices today are still held in absolute contempt if we seek validation. This has been far from a understanding and informed process.

You should be aware that no one chooses a time for impact and perhaps advancing years has a way of telling you to address the issues you have suppressed for decades. In my case I became very ill.

My brother Richard, knows better than to encourage me to do anything I do not feel is right and I take exception to Bishop Slater making that assumption.

It takes a great deal of courage to expose yourself. It leaves you with little pride and a massive impact on your mental health and well-being.

But I will not give up. There are still avenues to access and I know one day these issues will be addressed.

You may be aware a criminal investigation is in progress and in a unchristian wish I hope these ministers know the fear they installed in us as little children. The manner in which that was prolonged by the church was underhanded and should have been reported straight away and not 14 months later.

I am aware it was with your encouragement that Bishop Slater met with me and my brother Richard, but with three witnesses the Bishop did not make a clear statement that the meeting was not connected to meditation. In front of three witnesses he did promise twice that Mr. Comben would not be involved with future abused people – again a complete untruth.

I have enclosed the two letters sent to me by the Bishop and my response which seems was a waste of precious time. It seems to have fallen on deaf ears and nothing has been responded to and that as I pointed out just fuels anger. I will make that clear when I respond to Bishop Slater and Mr Comben.

I look forward to your response and I hope what I have written is placed on record.

Yours sincerely,

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