

Anglican Church Diocese of Grafton
The Right Reverend Keith Slater
PO Box 4
Grafton
NSW 2460

CA

REDACTED

Church of England North Coast Children's Home

October 8, 2007

Dear Bishop Slater

I am in receipt of your letter on August 14, 2007.

Now my frame of mind has improved I will attempt to respond in a respectable manner in order of concern.

I would like to know did you take into account any of my response to my first letter? Do you intent to bring any of those suggestions to fruition? I believe I deserve positive answers.

Please do not ever question my integrity, You do not know the person I am. I can assure you my moral standing is one element that is intact.

Your statement that my quest for validation could seen by others as a betrayal is a pathetic assumption you have no right to voice.

Sadly, those statements could be seen as intimidation and only serve to prove a well known fact that the church continues to demonstrate a lack of sensitivity and understanding.

You need to know my brother did not encourage me to place this case in the hands of a lawyer. I explained that journey to you in detail. Are you suggesting had we not engaged legal representation the outcome could have been different? That statement fly's in the face of democracy.

The manner the church has approached this process only reinforces ones belief that you need to engage representation. The action at all times was individual – it was not a class action and each person made their own choice if the outcome was acceptable to them.

I can say there would be no thought of betrayal by those abused people who settled; only admiration for finding the courage to continue to seek justice, because justice was not served and nothing was achieved.

The fact remains the church was the licensing body and was legally responsible to abide by the law and uphold the duty of care. If you read the horrific stories maybe your understanding of the true impact of those abusive acts would move you to reassess the manner in which the church treats victims.

Your refusal to acknowledge this abuse appears you condone the acts and reflects a great lack of understanding. In the words of Bishop Geoffrey Robinson: 'The most loyal person in the kingdom is the person who tells the truth.' That, Bishop Slater, would be a good beginning.

I have to bring to your attention that at no time during our meeting in REDACTED did you state the meeting was "not connected to meditation." Your words were untruthful. There were other people present and not one person can recall that statement, including Ms Jenni Woodhouse, so one has to ask why you were there?

To suggest I accept the package offered (A) does minimise my abusive life in the Church of England North Coast Children's Home and (B) the statement that if I do accept the package it would be "to my full advantage and not be absorbed by legal fees". That I would not meet my legal obligations is another assumption and I ask who's moral values are in question here?

You would have to know the clergy who committed abusive illegal acts on the children are under criminal investigation. The manner in which that was orchestrated is appalling and should have been reported immediately by the Diocese of Grafton – not 12 months later.

There is little chance the clergy will be given the punishment they deserve as those who have signed the Deed of Release, except for a few, are unlikely to continue the debilitating process, lessening the chance of justice. Bishop Geoffrey Robinson of Sydney said: 'Never defend the indefensible.'

You may continue to attempt to intimidate and direct unfair assumption, but the fact remains the North Coast Children's Home owned and run by the Anglican Church under licence 37, failed miserably in their duty of care.

I have for my whole life been disadvantaged by that cruel unlawful upbringing and my quest for validation will continue as your refusal to acknowledge with belief and respect of the two facts, only serves to fuel that quest.

I would sincerely ask that you put aside what seems to have become a desensitizing of the facts and treat this issue with the respect and the remorse it deserves. As is my right I will endeavour to explore every avenue of redress until this issue is resolved.

I await your reply.

Sincerely,

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