

This is Exhibit "HH" to the Statement of
JOAN KATHERINE ISAACS

Dated: 23 OCTOBER 2013

JK Isaacs

Mrs. Joan Isaacs
 REDACTED

Archbishop John Bathersby,
 Archbishop's House,
 790 Brunswick St.,
 NEW FARM 4005

Dear Archbishop Bathersby,

I am writing to you to request that our names (Ian and Joan Isaacs) be removed from the Church's Appeal register. It now causes me a great deal of heartache to receive this type of request from the Catholic Church.

As a recent candidate in the "TOWARDS HEALING" process, I have found that the Church's commitment to sexual abuse victims to be no more than empty words. The last two appeal requests (May – Catholic Prison Ministry; and August – Seminary Education) have contributed to my upset and disgust at the church's stance on social justice issues.

Statements such as the following from your brochure, cause me further grief.

the CJM "...encourages personal and social change which promotes and maintains human dignity...."

The CJM promotes"a restorative justice system...."

The CJM provides..." a range of services to people affected by the criminal justice system..."

As a practicing Catholic, a victim of sexual abuse by a Catholic priest, a person who has recently been through the court process and also through the TOWARDS HEALING process, I must object to the Church's bias against abuse victims.

The Catholic Church is outspoken on justice issues that are topical and "safe". It is acceptable to stage big demonstrations of reconciliation towards aboriginal people. It is admirable to support the "human dignity" of prisoners in our penal system. At the same time, it is convenient to ignore the "human dignity" of sexual abuse victims. It is convenient to ignore restorative justice for them. It is convenient to have a process called "TOWARDS HEALING" which on the surface appears to be assisting and addressing the needs of abuse victims but in reality causes them more alienation and grief.

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When I initiated my involvement in the TOWARDS HEALING process, I was full of apprehension, but hopeful that the Church had at last recognised its errors of the past and was ready to make amends. This has not been the case. There have been empty words and empty promises.

As you can understand this has made it difficult for my husband and I to maintain financial support of the Catholic Church after many years of doing so. Therefore, we no longer wish to contribute to any appeals.

Yours sincerely,

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Mrs. Joan Isaacs