

KA-7

Keith Ainge

From: Donna Mercier [dmercier@aogaustralia.com.au]
Sent: Monday, 9 December 2002 3:04 PM
To: Keith Ainge
Subject: FW: DISPUTE BETWEEN AoG & AHG [REDACTED] re Frank Houston

-----Original Message-----

From: AOG National Office Reception
Sent: Monday, 09 December 2002 10:13 AM
To: Donna Mercier
Subject: FW: DISPUTE BETWEEN AoG & AHG [REDACTED] re Frank Houston

-----Original Message-----

From: Philip L Powell [mailto:philip@christian-witness.org]
Sent: Friday, December 06, 2002 11:39 PM
To: gensec@assembliesofgodnz.org.nz; AHG [REDACTED]
Cc: REDACTED
 REDACTED
Subject: DISPUTE BETWEEN AoG & AHG [REDACTED] re Frank Houston

Attention: Neil Hetrick and AoG NZ - Executive

Dear Neil:

I have read AHG [REDACTED]'s letter to you. I am also aware of your response in which you expressed no sense of compassion or concern for this man who alleges gross sexual misconduct against himself the consequences of which have been far reaching in his own life and those associated with him. That such should have been perpetrated by any Christian let alone the man who held the top leadership position in the AoG-NZ denomination is an inexplicable evil. Frank Houston has already been disciplined on some other very serious count and as you know has been permanently banned from AoG platforms in Australasia by the NZ and Australian AoG Executives' rulings.

Don Barry has elsewhere referred to seven cases of alleged sexual abuse involving Frank Houston and/or AMF [REDACTED] and suggests that these seven are "just the tip of the iceberg". Clearly your Executive and that of AoG in Australia could be found guilty of attempted cover-ups in respect of the seriousness of the matters relating to both of these former General Superintendents of Assemblies of God. You are now adding insult to injury by giving AHG [REDACTED] the legal run-around when all you need do is invite him to meet you and your Executive for a free and open discussion. You have not disputed his main allegation. Through your solicitor you have simply questioned his memory as to detail. AHG [REDACTED] has readily acknowledged that he was hazy in respect of some of those details. He insists that he was sexually molested by Frank Houston when he was a teenager and Frank was the General Superintendent of AoG in NZ. This accusation has now been made before several witnesses. Biblically it should be investigated at Church leadership level.

Neil - as you know when Kathleen and I met you and Wayne Hughes at Takapuna in

10/12/02

1993/ 94 I told you that you would be hearing more regarding Frank Houston. This statement was made in the context of the known moral failure of AMF [REDACTED] who Wayne claimed had not had a great influence on AoG in New Zealand. Wayne asserted that the man who was influential in NZ was AMF predecessor viz Frank Houston. I warned you both then and I stand by all that I have said and written to you and to Wayne Hughes over the years. When, Neil will you wake up to what is happening and stop playing the hypocrite by fobbing people off on non-issues and by playing political games?

You were very close to Frank Houston at the time of his alleged sexual abuse of AHG [REDACTED] AHG [REDACTED] which was also the approximate time of the further alleged abuse of the young man who spoke to Barney Coombes in Palmerston North. You did not acknowledge or deny to AHG [REDACTED] that you were cognisant of the facts or rumours associated with AHG [REDACTED]'s claim. You have simply tried to hide behind a political ploy and a procedural foible. For a man of God to engage in such conduct is, in my view, a lack of integrity and honesty. If the Executive have supported you in this action then they too are culpable.

For the record I met personally with AHG [REDACTED] in September last. He is not an unreasonable person, but he is a determined man who intends to see this matter through to a satisfactory conclusion. I would not be surprised if a meeting between you and him would end in a satisfactory resolution although I have not discussed this as a possibility now that matters have gone so far. In my view you should have made that offer to AHG [REDACTED] as soon as you received notice of his allegation.

I pray Neil that you and your associates will heed the warning and do what is clearly the right and biblical thing to do, I would be pleased to hear from you and/or from anyone else in this mailing which is the same as that to which AHG [REDACTED] addressed his original letter, with the exception of my co-editor who has now removed from being a lecturer at Sheffield University in UK to Yale University in USA. I have simply corrected his email address and included him in the mail.

Sincerely yours in Christ's service,

Philip L. POWELL.

P.S. Coincidentally I am in NZ at Blenheim until very early Saturday morning December 14. You can reach me at [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Philip & Kathleen POWELL

[REDACTED]

WEB SITES: CWM (home) <http://www.christian-witness.org>
<http://www.christianwitnessministries.org>
<http://www.c-w-m.org> with VANGUARD (archives) and CETF (archives) direct links
to aid research <http://www.christian-witness.org/archives/arcdex.html>

----- Original Message -----

From: AHG [REDACTED]

To: gensec@assembliesofgodnz.org.nz

Cc: admin@assembliesofgodnz.org.nz [REDACTED]

10/12/02

REDACTED

Sent: Wednesday, November 20, 2002 12:33 PM

Incoming mail is certified Virus Free.
Checked by AVG anti-virus system (<http://www.grisoft.com>).
Version: 6.0.410 / Virus Database: 231 - Release Date: 31/10/02