

## OFFICE OF THE TERRITORIAL COMMANDER

Australia Southern Territory



May 2015

Mr. REDACTED  
c/- Emma Ryan  
Relationships Australia  
20 Clare Street  
NEW TOWN TAS 7008

Dear REDACTED

Thank you for the opportunity to meet recently and hear firsthand your story. I appreciate your willingness to take the time and the courage to tell your story one more time to me. As a leader of The Salvation Army it is important for me to hear your story and to have had the opportunity to express a deep regret and apology both personally and on behalf of The Salvation Army.

I understand from reading the material provided to me by Trevor Walker and your own sharing of your story, that you were placed in the care of The Salvation Army at Barrington Boys Home near Hobart, on a private placement paid for by your father.

One of The Salvation Army's primary objectives is "caring for people" and clearly what happened to you should never have occurred. There is no justification for any mistreatment or abuse.

I sincerely apologise to you for the physical and sexual abuse you endured while at the home. There is no excuse for what happened to you, also I apologise to you both personally and on behalf of The Salvation Army, for the pain and anguish you have suffered as a consequence of the manner in which you were treated in the home and failure in duty of care whilst in our care.

It is only through the courage of people such as you coming forward to tell us what occurred, and reliving your traumatic experiences, that the community now has a better understanding of the mistreatment that children suffered whilst in the care of institutions, the risk children face when placed in care, and the need to protect children from abuse.

I recognise your desire that your story never happens to another child. Let me further assure you that I am personally working with The Salvation Army officers and staff to ensure our policies and practices are such that every child who comes under the care and influence of The Salvation Army will find a place of caring and safety.

Yours sincerely,

Floyd J. Tidd  
Commissioner  
TERRITORIAL COMMANDER

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*William Booth Founder*  
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*Floyd J Tidd Territorial Commander*

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Caring for People  
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