



The Salvation Army

Australia Southern Territorial Headquarters

14 November 2007

BMA

REDACTED

Melton

Victoria 3337

Dear Mr. BMA

The Salvation Army – Bayswater Boys Home

I am writing on behalf of The Salvation Army to express deep regret for any mistreatment you suffered during your stay at the Bayswater Boys Home whilst in the care of The Salvation Army.

I have been provided with a copy of your statement and the report of Joan Callahan.

I wish to express The Salvation Army's apology for the abuse, which you have described.

Like many institutions and churches, The Salvation Army has in more recent years been dealing with victims of abuse that have occurred in institutions. We have been attempting to deal with such complaints in a caring and compassionate way.

I apologise to you. You were placed in the care of The Salvation Army which was a position of trust. Unfortunately, The Salvation Army appears to have betrayed that trust.

Clearly, what you say happened should not have happened. There is no justification for mistreatment and abuse. The Salvation Army has never condoned it in the past, nor do they condone it now.

I am heartened that after so many years you have been able to tell your story hopefully, in the telling, you may have gained some comfort. I am also pleased that you have been able to recount your story to Mr Philip Brewin of Nevett Ford lawyers representing The Salvation Army.

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William Booth Founder

Shaw Clifton General

James Knaggs Territorial Commander

I am very much aware that The Salvation Army's apology may do little to overcome the result of the circumstances and events from which you say you suffered, but I do hope that in some way it gives you strength to deal with the issues raised by it.

Can I also say that in the light of what we have learned, The Salvation Army has put in place policies and protocols to hopefully ensure that experiences that you have related will not be repeated again.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Karyn Rigley', with a small dot at the end.

Karyn Rigley (Major)
Assistant Secretary for Personnel