

FILE MEMO

IN A WORD – PARKERS

DATE 22/4/97

REF _____ SFW _____

FILE NUMBER	CLIENT	RE	TOTAL
	Salvation Army	Smith	4

Telephone in: Mr Sapwell

Wants to sort out q of compensation.

SA made decision – they want to compensate the victims in some way.

Policy pos'n is not to abuse people further by taking a confrontational pos'n

(1) have a counselling agree't in place draft

(2) Req some guidelines on how compensation should be made

SA's posn

1. Allegedly ≈ 20 victims according to Smith
Police only able to locate 4/5 at this stage.
2. 1 victim has contacted SA saying he believes he is entitled to compensation – asking SA how does he go about it, how much is he entitled so
3. SA wants to compensate – feel they have a moral obligation.
- but how do they go about this process?
Obviously need to balance legal/moral considts
4. Don't want to go the way of the Catholic Church
- QC deliberating on appln's
\$50,000 max available to each victim
too legalistic. Don't like this approach.
5. Not interested in establishing 'pool' of funds

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with designated maximum

- want assessment to be flexible to reflect damage

5. At this stage, no independent evidence – only victim's version as given to counsellors.

6. Query pos'n of this information – confidential?

Concerns:

1. Can we really give any assistance other than legal advice?

Would we consider how P&P can help.

2. Aware that we may say don't do any of this – opening up the floodgates.

Aware of churches will be concerned by action –

establishing precedent – advised not setting legal

precedent, but yes prob will increase public pressure

on other church groups in similar pos'ns.