

**From:** "JYOTI"  
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**To:** yogasandhan@satyananda.net  
**Cc:**  
**Bcc:**  
**Subject:** questions

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Hello,

I am writing to ask why it is that i have not ever received an apology from the ashram for the horrendous abuse i experienced as a teenager. some of the girls got letters i have not, seems i have been disregarded yet again.

Some of my posts were blocked i'd like to know why?

I realise the ashram is a different place these days which is good, however i have heard swamis from the Rocklyn ashram (several years ago) refer to the abuse and history of that time as a bit of a hiccup! and a difference of opinion.

One male swami who was at Rocklyn when i raised the topic of hearing from Bibble said " those kids were brats that got all they deserved" as you can imagine thats pretty dissappointing.

One older female swami said "the girls were very provocative and that Aka had asked her for sex and she just said no" given she was an adult at the time makes it very different to young teenagers who saw him as a guru and were brainwashed never to question the guru.

So as hopefully you can imagine i find it hard to be convinced that there are not still swamis with these kind of attitudes. And these swamis are still there.

I have no desire to harm the ashram as such, i love the yoga, the tranquil environment etc but i have never felt any justice for what happened to me. The abuse has had huge ramifications on my life, years of therapy, all kinds of ways its impacted on my life.

Despite that i have used my pain to help others. I have spent my life in service of others who have struggled with abuse as well as many other situations all because i understand the pain and suffering such abuse causes. Of the many many adults and children i've worked with i know that those who were not believed like myself, and who had not justice suffered the most. Here I am 30yrs later and still don't feel heard and still have never had a formal apology....its a shameful state of affairs.

As an organisation i would be thinking strongly about how to rectify the karma of the past. How to work hard to make it as right as it can be.

How about the ashram donate some money every year to an organisation like CASA or others that supports those who experience abuse?

Afterall you receive so much help from people doing Karma yoga for no reward, here is a chance to rectify your own karma as an organisation and give out.

Jyoti

formerly known as Swami Jyoti Saraswati.