

SUBMISSION ON CONSULTATION PAPER 2015- REDRESS AND CIVIL LITIGATION

Hello,

Firstly: you have grouped together a lot of people who were sexually abused by someone in a religious institution- church goers, altar boys, school children, those who were in orphanages and probably others- each group would have different circumstances e.g. they may have chose to go to that church or that school or maybe had no choice. Some had an opportunity to report the offence immediately or not attend the church/ school and some were trapped. Then there is the problem of severity of after effects- how are you to determine this? What proof do you need and those who happen to have more proof receive more compensation?

Why have a range of compensation payments anyway- we all are suffering or else this royal commission would not have started.

Why not have ongoing compensation till our death- we often will need financial support for the rest of our lives anyway. A good amount may be \$65,000 (indexed to inflation or cost of living each year). Most of the people who gave evidence at the Royal Commission are most likely not working and on some benefits anyway so by giving us all \$65,000 a year you would be saving on paying out benefits.

An example: myself: in an orphanage as a baby –released at age 6- a frightened child given to parents he did not know, met a brother in the orphanage- no concept of family. Now I tried hard and went on to graduate as a teacher but I always had this problem of the past and a lot of sadness that I sort of dealt with- how? By actually not working, it was too stressful as was any other job and as a result my earning power was much diminished- who compensates for that? Well if we look at a teachers wage for the time I did not work (at least 8 years I did not work at all and in total only worked 6 years full time , the remaining years I worked as a casual teacher sometimes for a term or 2 and picked fruit in summer) plus the loss in super it comes to much more than \$65'000 – then on top what was the cost of being molested and abused in that orphanage?

Some may like to have ongoing educational costs met plus medical needs on top of any compensation payment.

Lastly tax the churches and use some of the money to be used as compensation .Do not allow the churches to deal directly with victims such as the so called Melbourne response which is a sheer farce.

There have been so many enquiries that I have been involved in since the Senate Enquiry of 2004. All have made recommendations for compensation- even now the figure of an average payment of \$65,000 is dependant on the churches agreeing?- they are time wasters as they are aware that the victims are often in poor health with many dying each year. The only way I can ever see them paying compensation is by force and the simplest method is to tax them- after all they are not charities, they are businesses.

This is a second submission as I have just added a bit more information, it can replace the first one?

Thanking you

